OLUME EXIII. NUMBER 19294

■ SIVAN 20, 5756 ■ MAHARRAM 2 14.5



Border policemen check permits of Gaza workers at the Erez checkpoint yesterday as 12,000 Palestinians over 35 years old were permitted to return to work in Israel.

Coalition talks falter due to religious parties' tough demands

THE coalition negotiations ran into trouble yesterday over the demands of the religious parties, most notably on how to define the status quo on religions affairs. The sides adjourned last night without agreement.

The coalition guidelines were not the only

source of difficulty. Partfolio demands and the bickering between the National Religious Party and Shas over the Religious Affairs portfolio, as well as increasing unrest inside the Likud, also cast a shadow over the talks. The negotiations will resume only on

lack of progress, however, did not seem to dampen the optimism around prime minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu. Difficulties, those close to him said, can only be expected in the opening phases of the haggling, when the sides put their toughest positions on the table. The religious parties are sure to get more realistic, they argued.

Sources close to Netanyahu continued to say that the coalition would be set up soon, and that the new government would be ready for its first vote of confidence when the new Knesset convenes on June 17.

It was noted that Netanyahu has been invited to Washington at the end of the month, and it is unlikely he would go before his

government is established. Likud sources said the party's negotiators SARAH HONIG

were quite stunned by the demands the three religious parties put to them. They included returning to the status quo on religious affairs that existed before the Labor victory in 1992, making recognition of all conversions conditional on approval by the Chief Rabbinate, enacting a basic law guaranteeing the Jewish character of the state, and guaranteeing that there would be no legislative initiative or adding new coalition partners without the consent of all members of the original coalition.

The latter demand is seen as an attempt by admitting Labor into the coalition, something the Likud might wish to do to limit the power of its smaller coalition partners. Meretz had elicited a similar clause from Labor in the 1992 coalition agreement.

The Likud negotiators reacted by telling the religious parties they must tone down their aspirations and not press on with de-mands which they know the Likud could not

Shas MK Shlomo Benizri accused the Likud negotiators of "talking to us insensitively. as if we had asked for things that are above and beyond what could be considered as

NRP MK Yitzhak Levy wondered "why the

Likud is getting so upset. After all, we asked for nothing much. This is a list of our minimal

Likud MK Tzahi Hanegbi noted that "the problem lies in defining the status quo. The religious parties say they cannot agree to freeze things as they now are, because the Labor-Meretz government had altered the status quo adversely, from the religious point of view. They want to go back to the way things were, and agreeing on just where we draw the line is the chief difficulty."

Added pressure on the Likud came from the Third Way, which made its own demands on religious issues, and which underscored that it was also speaking on behalf of Yisrael Ba'aliya. These parties demand that no move be made to either amend existing basic laws or enact new ones without their agreement. They also insist on retaining full rights to vote their conscience on religious issues, a situation which, in theory, could deny the coalition a majority when such issues come up in the

Knesset.

MK Dan Meridor denied that he lost his temper during the negotiations and had threatened the religious parties with the national unity option, which would cut their

The Likud also failed to win the support of (Continued on Page 2)

US: No hope for talks with Syria without including Golan concessions

DAVID MAKOVSKY, HILLEL KUTTLER, ELDAD BECK, and news agencies

THE talks with Syria do not have much hope of progressing if prime minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu refuses to discuss concessions on the Golan Heights, a senior Clinton administration official said yesterday.

They're not much interested in pursuing negotiations unless the territorial dimension is a part of it," he

Another senior US official concurred, saying, "If [Netanyahu] comes out and says, 'There will be no territorial compromise on the Golan,' I don't think that's a process that can be sustained or even started.'

A day earlier, State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said that US peacemaking has been based on a land-forpeace formula.

Yet, on eve of a three-way Arab summit in Damascus, Netanyahu made it clear that he has no intention of yielding on the Golan, but insisted that he had ideas of his own to advance the talks with Syria.

Syrian President Hafez Assad is to host the summit, which will be attended by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah - who will be standing in for King who is ill. The leaders of the three countries last met in Alexandria 18 months ago. That meeting led to a slowing of normalization between Israel and Gulf and North African

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said the summit serve to "study the Arab situation, bring Arab states together and support a just and and balanced peace process, based on the principle of land for peace." Spurred on by quiet US prodding. Arab leaders such as Mubarak have argued for not pre-

judging Netanyahu. US officials say that Assad

has avoided being too negative, as he does not want to preclude progress, but is seeking to en-sure that Israel is blamed in the event that talks collapse. "It's Assad saying, 'I can be

much more judgmental, more vituperative, but I'm not. I'm taking the high-road approach.' That's the public position," a US official said.

Assad may feel, just possibly, that this government - there may be something there for us. One thing Assad has managed to avoid - and the Syrians have screwed up left and right – is having the finger of blame placed on him.

"[He's saying:] 'Let them construct their own noose," " the official added.

Netanyahu, visiting Haifa, Taiba, and Netivot yesterday, made his first specific reference to Syria since being elected.

I think there are additional ways to advance confidencebuilding between Syria and Israel, and alleviate the tension and the existing situation of hostility ahead of full peace and a peace treaty," he told reporters. He insisted that he wants to

hold talks with Syria, but indicated that he does not want to yield the Golan. "We have already had talks. We started at Madrid and we made it clear to Assad that we will remain on the Golan Heights.

Netanyahu has said he would favor partial agreements with Syria on issues such as water, and could envision helping Damascus get off the State Department list of countries sponsoring

terrorism if it expelled terrorists from its soil. US officials have privately expressed the belief that this idea is unworkable.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir and senior IDF officers briefed Netanyahu aides Dore Gold and Danny Naveh on the Lebanon monitoring group which is being established in the aftermath of Operation Grapes of Wrath.

A decision on the scope and responsibilities of the group must be made within the next week, sources said. Savir has already briefed Gold on Hebron, and is expected to shortly brief him on technical aspects of Oslo

According to information reaching The Jerusalem Post in Paris regarding a recent meeting between Assad and a French figure in Damascus, the Syrian leader believes he can reach an agreement with Netanyahu by way of US mediation.

Assad said the agreement will include not only the Golan, but also Lebanon, hinting that Israeli concessions over Lebanon will enable Syria unspecified flexibility on the Golan.

According to the French figure, Syria is in favor of Netanyahu's position rejecting Palestinian statehood.

French diplomatic sources insist there have been indirect contacts between Netanyahu and the Syrian government prior to the elections. The sources say a "communication channel" has been established enabling the two sides to exchange messages.

Netanyahu has denied that he has sent any messages to the Syrians.

Turkish Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz quits

ANKARA (AP) - Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz resigned yesterday after only three months in office, possibly opening the way for a pro-Islamic party to come to power.

Yilmaz acted after a high court said a vote of confidence his govemment received was invalid. But the government had been on the brink of collapse for days and faced a no-confidence vote in Parliament tomorrow that it was ex-

pected to lose. The leader of the Islamic party expressed satisfaction. Now the mandate to form the

next government should be handed to me - within half an hour," Necmettin Erbakan, leader of the Welfare Party, said. However, President Suleyman Demirel said he would meet with all party leaders today before des-

ignating one to try to form another coalition. Yilmaz said he would meet social democrat leader Deniz Baykal later yesterday in what may be an attempt to form a center-right

alliance. The current coalition collapsed

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mostly due to personal rivalry between Yilmaz and his coalition partner, former prime minister Tansu Ciller.

The two leaders, who had agreed to rotate the premiership, have been battling since the alliance was forged. "Our goal is to come up with a

coalition formula from within this

partiament," before early elections are considered, Yilmaz said. Yilmaz will serve as caretaker

until a new government is formed. Ciller had earlier withdrawn her True Path Party from the government coalition. The break came after Yilmaz supported corruption allegations against her that were brought by the Welfare Party.

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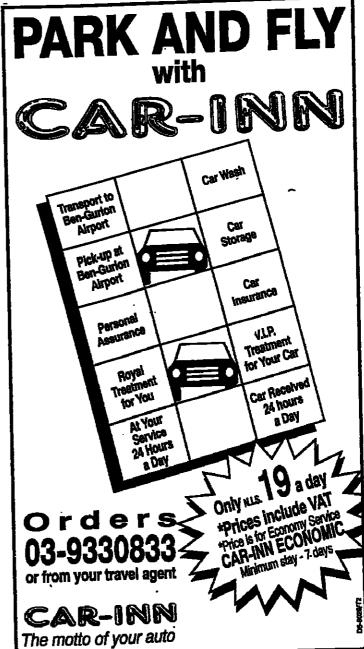
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Justice Ministry probing **Border Police killing of Arab**

BORDER policemen shot and killed a Palestinian and moderately wounded his brother in Jerusalem early vesterday morning, with one of the policemen saying they opened fire after they saw the dead man make a motion as if he were drawing a gun.

The man turned out to be unarmed and, according to Palestinian sources, the policemen were not in uniform, which raises questions about the circumstances surrounding the incident.

The Justice Ministry Police Investigations Division has opened an inquiry into the shooting, which occurred at around 2:30 a.m. in the Wadi Kadoum neighborhood, south of the Old City. The dead man is hotel worker Daoud Shweikeh, 28, a father of

DEPARTURES

CHARLEY J. LEVINE, President, Charles Levine Communications (CLC), to Mos-cow, joining the international election monitoring team of the Appeal for Con-science Foundation.

SUSAN GOPSTEIN, Executive Vice-President, Charles Levine Communications (CLC), for consultations on New York and Washington, DC, concerning the release from prison of Jonathan Pollard.

Day One

Wednesday, June 12, 1996, Auditorium B'nai Zion, Beth Hatefusoth, Museum of the Jewish Diaspora,

9:30-10:40 Greetings by Conveners, Congratulations and Introduction

11:00-12:30 First Fascinations

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The Adventure of Islam
Benjamin Braude, Boston College: 'Jew'
and Jesuit at the Origins of Arabism: William

Jacob Landau, Hebrew University: Arminius

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Daoud Shweikeh

TEL AUIU UNIVERSITY

three. Mohammed Shweikeh, 18, was moderately wounded. A third brother, Wahba, whose age was not immediately available, was detained by police, and released later in the day.

Yakub Shweikeh said he and his three sons spotted a suspicious van outside their home, and went to investigate, thinking it might be car thieves. Shweikeh

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The Mortimer and Raymond Sackler Institute of Advanced Studies

clothes opened fire from the van without warning when they

Palestinian sources said the occupants were apparently undercover policemen on an operation or on patrol in the area. The sources said undercover units have been frequently seen in Arab neighborhoods in recent months.

The brothers have no criminal records, according to the sources. Mohammed was taken to Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem, they said.

The Jerusalem police spokesman, in a statement, said a Border Police force was operating in the neighborhood and spotted three men. One policeman said that one of the men motioned as if he was pulling a gun, and the force opened fire, killing him.

The border policemen also shot at the two other residents who tried to flee, moderately wounding one of them. They detained the other, the spokesman said. He said the body of Daoud Shweikeh was taken to the Institute for Forensic Medicine at Abu Kabir.

The spokesman declined further comment, saying the Justice Ministry is investigating.

Day Two

Thursday, June 13, 1996, Malka Brender Hall of Justice,

Mediterranean Masters Dan Segre, Haifa University: Assimilation,

Patriotism and Faifth: Giorgio Levi della Vida David J. Wasserstein, Tel Aviv University:

Evariste Levi-Provencal and the History of Islam in the Iberian Peninsula

Joel Kraemer, University of Chicago: From Prague to Cairo: The Orientalism of Psul Kraus Yaron Tsur, Tel Aviv University: The Historical

Toward East and West Martin Kraner, Tel Aviv University: Jew into

Muslim: Leopold Weiss/Muhammad Asad

Shulamit Seta, Tel Aviv University: S.M. Stern:

Havah Lazarus - Yafeh, Hebrew University: The Transplantation of Islamic Studies from Europe to Palestine-Israel: Josef Horovitz,

General Discussion: Jews, Islam, and the

Representation of the Jews in Robert

inschvig's Work on the Hafsids

Jewish Aspects of his Islamic Studies

The New School

Trubowic Building for Law, Tel Aviv University

11:10-12:30 Trial by Fire



Prime minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu poses with Majeed, a Taiba youth, whom he promised six weeks ago that if elected, he would ensure all Israeli children have equal opportunity. Yesterday, Netanyahu told Majeed he would have the same opportunities as his son, Yair.

Ramon accuses Barak, pollster of joining in political conspiracy

campaign.

NEWS

Vadana, the director of Shvakim Panorama, had been a member of a team appointed by Prime Minister Shimon Peres to monitor the campaign and conduct independent public opinion polls. Labor secretary-general Nissim Zvilli and businessman Jean Friedman

Vadana revealed a few days ago

But Ramon, Labor's campaign information director, would not heed his warnings and did not take his surveys seriously, he said. Ramon and the others on the campaign information staff kept telling Peres he would win, and to pay no attention to polls showing otherwise. he said.

television debate, while Labor claimed victory for Peres, he showed Ramon and Peres polls showing Netanyahu had won, and suggested how to correct that in the two remaining days of the campaign. Ramon continued to ignore his findings.

In a sharp letter of reply to Vadana, Ramon yesterday accused him and Barak, who was head of Peres's personal campaign and in charge of dealing with surveys, of hiding information from Ramon "either by mistake or more probably deliberately, and using this information after the elections to create a false situation as though you had warned me against failure.'

Ramon charged that keeping this information from him "is a serious act bordering on deliberate sabotage of the election campaign for tendentious reasons.

"The attempt by yourself and by your employer, Barak, to keep essential information from me, and to accuse the of hiding hilforniation which I didn't have at my disposal, makes you knowingly or unknowingly, an accomplice in a political :

terday, except to say that Vadana had not been employed by him. Sources close to Barak said he

does not intend to react to a new accusation from Ramon every day. and is now devoting his time to planning the future, rather than remaining mired in the past. Barak, the sources said, has not met with any Likud personality to discuss the possible forming of a national unity government. Nor

that if Netanyahu makes such a proposal, Peres will have to decide how to respond. It is assumed, however, that Barak will support joining a national unity government if the possibility

has he expressed any opinion con-

cerning this option, saying only

presents itself. Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal yesterday blasted Barak and Ramon for their mutual recriminations at a meeting of regional campaign heads. "Never has a party with so many achievements been so mept at conveying this to the public," he said. Shahal also spoke sharply against "crawling" to a national

unity government.

Bar-Ilan graduates celebrate university's 40th year

OVER 3,000 graduates of Bar-Ilan University, including six MKs and seven IDF generals, gathered last night in Ramat Gan's National Park to mark the university's 40th anniversary.

The reunion + which featured speeches by President Ezer Weiz-man and Chief Rabbi Yssael Meir Lan a concert by Dudu Fisher, and an award ceremony honoring 60 outstanding graduates - was the concluding event in a year-long celebration of the anniversary.

"The purpose of tonight's event is to celebrate the university and the accomplishments of its graduates, in all walks of life," said University President Moshe Kaveh. Several of the graduates said that their years at Bar-Han prepared them for both professional

and personal success "The classes and authosphere here, whether or not you're religious, are important to help you understand what it means to be a Jew in the State of Israel," said Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz.

Taking the time to learn things other than the day-to-day affairs of the Air Force was wonderful," said OC Air Force Maj.-Gen. Herzi Bodinger, who started studies at the school in 1987. "But the best parts were meeting young people and learning things about Judaism and Israel that non-Orthodox kids don't always get a chance to learn."

Most of those honored expressed shock at the attacks on the university after the slaying of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"Bar-Ilan has always tried to help its students find common ground, to teach both religious and secular students about each other," said MK Shaul Yahalom of the National Religious Party. "It hurt me that so many were so quick to attack the school."

The evening, however, was as much about the future as the past, "I look forward to doing this again at the 50th anniversary," Kaveh said. "I look forward to showing how we have continued on our special path."

conspiracy planned in advance." Barak refused to comment yes-MICHAL YUDELMAN

THE mud-slinging in Labor continued yesterday, as Interior Minister Haim Ramon accused Foreign Minister Ehud Barak and pollster Yossi Vadana of a political conspiracy and of sabotaging the party's election

were also on the team.

that he conducted polls a monthand-a-half before the elections that indicated that prime minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu had not only closed the gap with Peres but was overtaking him.

Vadana also said that after the

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COALITION

(Continued from Page 1) portfolio offers. To make peace between Shas and the NRP over Religious Affairs, the Likud suggested Ovadia Eli (who lost his Knesset seat) have the portfolio. But the NRP's Shaul Yahalom called this "an attempt by the Likud to usurp this portfolio. We will not agree to this. We will not serve in the government if this portfolio is not in our hands or in the hands of someone we agree on."

The Likud also offered the NRP the Education and Communications portfolios, as well as a deputy environment minister. But the NRP wanted Labor and Social Affairs, earmarked by the Likud for Shas, along with Interior. United Torah Judaism, according to the Likud offer. would get Housing and the chairmanship of the Knesset Finance Committee.

Likud sources say Netanyahu plans to keep many powerful departments under his control, which is sure to displease future ministers. These include control of both TV channels and cable

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TV, the Finance Ministry's the religious parties for its budget division, and the Israel Lands Administration. Netanyahu continued to fray

the nerves of Likud ministerial aspirants by not giving any hint about what he has in mind. Ariel Sharon is already peeved, and Tsomet's Rafael Eitan also signaled displeasure. Those close to Eitan, including Doron Shmueli, who is representing Tsomet in the coalition negotiations, said that Eitan should get Defense.

"Raful should certainly be in the leading cabinet trio. It was his decision to withdraw his candidacy for prime minister and join forces with the Likud which paved the way back for David Levy, and which eventually made Netanyahu's victory possible," Shmueli said.

Pedestrian killed by truck

Shraga Yitzhak, 62, of Rehovot was killed yesterday when a truck hit him as he was crossing at a crosswalk in the city. The driver of the truck, who has a long re-cord of traffic violations, was arrested by police.

Winning numbers and cards

In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 133200 won NIS 1,000,000. The holder of ticket number 295568 WOM a CAF.

Tickets numbered 664222, 159806, 458352, 874750, 251716, 711536, 627002 and 887456 won NIS 5,000. 02/012 and 85/456 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 58005, 72789, 68755, 76000, 76904, 92664, 93940, 00330, 83139, 82087, 33427, 99658, 68634, 69738, 75413 31508, 12105, 69251 and 15437 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 385, 415, 621, and 400 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 71, 36, 01, 23 won NIS 30. Tickets ending in 34 and 35 won NIS 20. and 55 won NIS 20. Tickets ending in 2 and 8

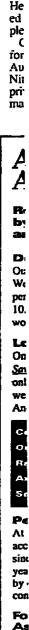
In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the incky cards were the nine of spades, nine of hearts, jack of diamonds, and eight of clubs.

Dudu Fisher

Mt. Scopus Amphitheater, Hebrew University June 12, 1996, at 7:30 p.m.

Opening remarks by Mayor of Jerusalem, Ehud Olmert

Donation of NIS 30 at entrance to *Operation Jabotinsky* for immigrants from C.I.S.



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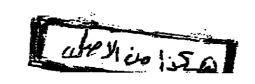
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A paratrooper camouflages a comrade's face in preparation for an exercise in the North this week simulating combat in southern

Hizbullah fires from inside villages

HIZBULLAH stepped up its attacks on IDF and South Lebanon Atmy positions in the security zone yesterday, firing at them several times from inside villages. a violation of the agreement that ended Operation Grapes of

IDF sources said the army viewed this seriously, and said Hizbullah's intention was probably to see how the new govern-

In one incident gunmen fired

an anti-tank missile from a position near a school in the village of Bareshit. They also fired from inside houses in the villages of Kabarita and Majdal el-Salim.

The IDF and SLA, out of concern that innocent villagers might

turning fire. The Hizbullah fire caused no casualties or damage. In another incident, a powerful

be harmed, refrained from re-

roadside bomb was detonated near an IDF patrol, but caused no

Akaba summit: Spin-doctoring the Netanyahu victory

WEDNESDAY'S Akaba summit was an exploratory exercise in defining the Israeli elections to make their results fit into the jigsaw of the peace process.

Several remarkable statements were made in the summit press conference. King Hussein said he believed the elections were a choice between two persons rather than two policies. PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat said that Binyamin Netanyahu, as Israeli spokesman, facilitated direct Isracli-Palestinian talks at the Madrid conference. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said Likud and Labor policies are irrelevant. as history will force the establishment of a Palestinian state 'whether we like it or not."

Mubarak, in arranging a series of Arab summits, appears eager to reach a unified Arab position under his leadership to help his-

He also knows that it is important to push all the right buttons to help Netanyahu feel it's really what he wants, as well. Madrid is one such button and the summit communique called on Israel "to continue the peace process which began at the Madrid conference."

Oslo is not mentioned. However, a new conference could embrace Madrid and Oslo. It would resemble Madrid with its wide range of sponsors, Arab COMMENT

JON IMMANUEL

representatives, and perhaps even a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation. The Madrid conditions allowing only local Palestinian representatives would be fine, since Arafat and most of the PLO are now the local leaders.

Now that Shimon Peres is no longer prime minister, commentators are finding ways to dismiss his centrality to the peace process. "Ali a weak Labor government could have done would be to maintain the fiction of a peace process," noted Washingtonbased Palestinian lobbyist James Zogby in Wednesday's Jordan

Neither Mubarak nor Netanvahu, for different reasons, much liked phrases like "The New Middle East" nor Oslo's secret talks with the PLO, so both would like to give the process a different name under their auspices.

Mubarak emphasized that he not Peres - first told the Americans in 1986 that they would have to talk to Arafat, when then-premier Peres was pushing the Jordanian option. The Americans opened talks with the PLO in 1988 and Netanyahu will do so now, intimated Mubarak.

Arafat mentioned with a conspiratorial grin that at Madrid, Netanyahu made his own room available for private meetings of the Palestinian and Israeli delegations, without the required Jordanian chaperone.

But Arafat knows and fears that Netanyahu is again thinking of three-way meetings with the Jordanians and the Palestinians, as required at Madrid, to work out a three-way management of territory across the Green Line.

Hussein addressed this issue by saying he would accept whatever the Palestinians wanted "on their soil." So Arafat, who chafed from Tunis at the enforced Palestinian-Jordanian ties in Madrid, might find closer coordination with Jordan useful now that he is in Gaza, to prevent the Likud from driving a wedge between the Jordanian and PLO positions.

As Mubarak moves on to Damascus next week he is aware that Syria, which distrusts everyone, could be the joker, but that's the way it was at Madrid, too.

"Can Mubarak really believe there is going to be progress?" asks skeptic Barry Rubin, working on a study of Mubarak's policies at Bar-Ilan University's BESA Center for Strategic Studies. "Then I remember Egyptian officials in 1990 saying it would be better to deal with Likud than Labor. So I am able to say they really believe it this week, but it's hard to believe they'll think this a month from now.

FOR a man under attack, Rabbi Richard Hirsch appears to be fairly calm.

Hirsch, executive director of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, is under attack from the religious parties.

Shas leader MK Arych Deri said this week that although the Reform have a right to exist, they have no right to interfere in Israeli

"To my sorrow, the Reform are powerful abroad and in the US, but we have conducted surveys that show that they don't have more than 18 or 20 congregations in Israel. They have a fight to exist, but they constitute a marginal percentage of the population," Deri said in a radio interview.

In coalition negotiations yesterday, the religious parties demanded to demanding a return to the status one on religious issues of four "Years ago. This would entail enacting legisla-tion to nullify such High Court decisions as 11 that, which gave Reform (and Conservative) Jews the right to sit on religious councils, and that which appeared to recognize Reform

Hussein,

Clinton

to discuss

Netanyahu

HAIM SHAPIRO

conversions performed here. In reality, Hirsch said yesterday, the gains were not that far-reaching. Despite the court decision, no Reform or Conservative representative sits on a religious council. Hirsch also admitted that the ruling on conversions was not clear cut.

Reform efforts to perform conversions here, he said, were the result of a genuine concern for the hundreds of thousands of immigrants from the former Soviet Union who are not recognized as halachicly Jewish. The Orthodox rabbinate had refused to convert them, he said, unless they committed themselves to leading an Orthodox way of life, something which most of them could not do.

Despite a well-publicized Education Ministry decision to accept the Shenhar Commission's report which recommended stressing pluralism in Jewish education in secular schools, the Reform movement has not received the funds promised to subsidize its

programs. One area in which payments were made, he said, was in subsidies for rabbinical students at Hebrew Union College similar to those paid for yeshiva students.

In response to the coalition demands, Hirsch has called on Reform Jews around the world to appeal to Binyamin Netanyahu. He also stresses that there are those in many parties, and not just on the Left, who support retaining a open, pluralistic state.

"I hope the political leaders will recognize that it is not to their advantage to close the door to pluralism and the multiplicity of views," he said.

Hirsch denied that the movement has ever been identified with any political party. He admitted that many individuals in the movement had backed Meretz, and that the Meretz platform was favorable to the movement, but so are the views of Labor, Tsomet and the Third Way, as well as of many members of the · Likud.

"We have always had support from the Right as well as the Left," Hirsch said.

LOOKING FOR A PHONE NUMBER?

'Natan Yahu the rotten one

ISLAMIC and Nasserist opposition newspapers in Egypt have begun printing the last name of prime minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu as two words - Natan Yahu - which means "This is the rotten one" in Arabic.

The daily El-Dostor claims credit for the idea, explaining that natan means rotten and yahu, this is, in spoken

Several opposition newspapers adopted the idea, although the official press continues to write his name as one

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victory HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON KING Hussein and President Clinton will meet at the White House next Thursday to discuss the ramifications of Binyamin Netanyahu's election victory last week, a Jordanian embassy official in Washington said The meeting will be the first between Clinton and a Middle East leader since the election. Clinton and Netanyahu are due

to meet-soon after the new Israeli government is installed. Hussein, who is coming to the US to receive an honorary degree from New York University, will also meet with Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Congressional leaders during his

three-day visit, the official said. Meanwhile yesterday, Clinton said the US's role in the peace process will not be diminished by the change of Israeli governments and that he will not resort to pressuring Israel.

"Our interests in peace in the Middle East are still great," Clinton told television executives. "Our commitment to the security and well-being of the people of Israel is just as great as it was before that election. It goes beyond party and elections in Israel and ... in the US."

LECTURE The History of the Uprising Against the Labor Government by David Perkins ithe second person who began it on Sunday, June 9, 1996 (23 Sivan 5756) at 7 p.m., 8 p.m., and 9 p.m. (3 presentations

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The Hebron dilemma

THE Netanyahu government has inherited the unfinished problem of Hebron, and has a very short time in which to decide what to do. The interim agreement with the Palestinians (Oslo B), signed on September 28 1995, includes the commitment to redeploy the IDF from Hebron, up to the boundaries of the Jewish Quarter.

In making his decision, Netanyahu must balance several objectives, beginning with security. Since the 1929 massacre of the ancient Jewish community, Hebron has been a center of radical Palestinian nationalism and Islam, and is now a major Hamas bastion. The threat is not only to Hebron's Jewish community, which will continue to be under IDF protection, but rather to all of Israel. If Hamas is allowed to organize terrorist operations without interference, (as was the case in other cities under autonomy until Arafat was forced to crack down in March 1996), the danger to Israel will grow.

At the same time, the new government is under enormous pressure to honor the commitments its predecessor. International law and practice require governments to honor

important to demonstrate respon-sibility and credibility in the international arena in general, and with respect to the United States in particular. Preservation of close relations with Washington is a funda-mental element in Israeli security. A crisis in the political process would be exploited by Egypt, and pressure would mount on Jordan, the Gulf States, Tunisia and Morocco to break or freeze their

However, as opposition leader, the failure of the Palestinians to honor commitments in the Oslo agreements, and Peres's unwillingness to link withdrawal to Arafat's actions. Violations include the refusal to extradite terrorists, the creation of security forces much larger than specified, police operations outside the areas under autonomy, including Jerusalem, and the failure to disarm Hamas and other

Arafat's public declarations of support for terrorists, such as Yihye Ayash ("the Engineer") clearly violated the spirit of the agreements. Netanyahu's security advisor Dore Gold has emphasized the goal of "changing the rules of the game," and withdrawal from Hebron, without a change in Palestinian behavior, would be

GERALD M. STEINBERG

seen as a continuation of the discredited policies of Peres.
In comparing these factors, there are three basic options from which to choose, and each has specific costs and benefits. Netanyahu can decide to do nothing, and maintain the IDF's current deployment in Hebron; withdraw fully in the agreed time frame; or order partial withdrawal while linking further action to

Palestinian compliance. The first option, maintaining the status quo and the military presence in Hebron, is advocated by the residents of the city's Jewish Quarter, Kiryat Arba, and the sup-porters of continued Israeli control over Judea and Samaria. They argue that this is the only means preventing Hamas from using Hebron to prepare terrorist attacks, and note that the agreement specifies overall Israeli responsibility for security.

Critics of this option note that in the long term, this policy would endanger Israeli security, lead to resumption of the intifada, cause immediate international isolation, and create a sharp political conflict with the United States. Ambassador Martin Indyk has publicly pressed Netanyahu to withdraw in accordance with the agreement, and a confrontation would endanger US financial and military aid to Israel and Washington's vital political sup-port. In addition, this decision would maintain Israeli control and responsibility for the lives of a large and hostile population.

The second option, full withdrawal, would involve the greatest immediate security risk, but gain full support from the international unity and the US. It would demonstrate Netanyahu's commit-ment to the political process, and

create a reservoir of political credit. However, if this leads to renewed terrorism, the new government will lose its credibility among its supporters, and internal disputes will surface inside the Likud. To balance the political costs,

Netanyahu can seek a commitment from Clinton to the economic support for the Palestinians to full implementation of the agreements, secure an American agreement to contingency operations in the event of renewed terror, and press Egypt to take actions to improve relations with Israel.

Partial withdrawal, tying contin-

a middle road, indicating the intention to honor the agreement, but linked to reciprocity from Arafat. However, this would still be widely criticized as an abroga-tion of the terms of Oslo B, and carry significant political costs, as well as limited security benefits. This option would only be viable if it received at least limited support from Washington.

Although renegotiation and revision of the concept behind the Oslo process may be the preferred option, Arafat will not renegotiate what he has already been promised. In the permanent status negotiations, Netanyahu will have the opportunity to place his own proposals on the table, but attempts to rewrite the Hebron agreement seem unrealistic.

Thus, there are no good options open to Netanyahu, and he will be pressured to make a decision in a very short time. The stakes are very high, and the implications of this decision will reverberate for many years. A decision that balances the key political and military factors carefully will provide a solid beginning for the Netanyahu administration.

The writer is a Senior Researcher at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic at Bar Ilan

Netanyahu affirms peace commitment to Oman, Qatar

Netanyahu has told Oman and Qatar, the only two Gulf states to establish trade links with Israel, that he is committed to the peace

Netanyahn telephoned Oman's Qaboos and Qatar's Foreign Minister Hamad bin lassim bin Jabr al-Thani on

The Qatari news agency Tham told Netanyahn he needs to contime the peace process. Netayahn said he "will work for the contin-

nation of the peace process".

Quatari officials have said the as-and-oil rich state would consider slowing down the pace of normalizing ties with Israel fol-lowing Netanyahu's election.

The Omani news agency said

Netanyahu told Qaboos he is com-mitted "to the Palestinian-Israeli peace agreements, as well as conimping the peace process with the other Arab committees to achieve It said Netanyahu said "that what was attributed to him about

not being committed to the peace process was far from the truth." Netanyabu's calls to Oman and Oatar were made before today's expected meeting in Saudi Arabia of the leaders of Egypt, Syria, and Saudi Arabia for further discus-Sions on Deace.

Oman and Qatar are members in the Gulf Cooperation Council alliance which also groups Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates.

Qaboos is expected to visit Sandi Arabia for talks with the King Fahd on tomorrow. He will later travel to Egypt to meet President Hosni Mubarak.

Oman and Qatar are the only Guif states to have received Prime Minister Shimon Peres in April. They agreed to exchange trade missions, but stayed clear from full diplomatic relations.

The GCC countries say they

will only consider establishing diplomatic ties with Israel once a just and comprehensive peace is reached, including on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks.

Peace Now affiliate: **Evict Jews** from Silwan

BILL HUTMAN

THE Jewish families living in the bers of the Peace Now-affiliated ir 🧿 Shalem group said yesterday, during a tour of the newest Arab. home purchased and occupied by a settlement group in the neighborbood.

The government must stop armed settlers from moving into spokesman Mossi Raz. "Their entrance into the village is just stèp towards Hebronization of Jerusalem," Raz

Just after the initial election results showing Binyamin' Netanyahn was the winner were in .. last week, the Elad settlement group moved a Jewish family intothe City of David section of Silwan for the first time since the group first entered the village over

four years ago.

The group plans to move additional families into other homes it has purchased in the Arab neighporpood-

"This is the beginning of a bad thing for both the Jewish and Arab residents of Jerusalem," Raz said.

Syria dismisses US reports of **explosions**

DUBAI (Renter) - Syrian Information Minister Mohammed Salman was quoted yesterday as saying that US reports of several explosions in Syria over the past month were "silly and baseles

A line

"Any visitor to Syria can see the state of stability that the country enjoys," the London-based Arabic-language Asharq al-Awsat newspaper quoted the minister as

He said a State Department statement on the blasts was "an attempt to divert world attention from what is happening in Israel especially regarding forming the government and the symbols of bigotry and hatred for the Arab

people (in the government)."

He was referring to the election of Binyamin Netanyahu which led to Arab concerns he might be less committed to the petice process than the outgoing government.

The State Department said on

Tuesday it had confirmed reports of several explosions in Syria over past month and advised American citizens in the country to "review their security practices."

It said the explosions were acts of violence but were not on a major scale. A message sent to the small American community in Syria by public by the State Department in Washington, said it was not clear

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Avi Bettelheim, Journalist and Editor, Ma'ariv (Political Science)

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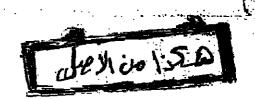
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Outgoing Mossad chief: Assad may not want peace

OUTGOING Mossad chief Shabtai Shavit, acknowledging a dispute with IDF intelligence, says he is not convinced that Syria is ready for peace with Israel In an interview broadcast yes-

terday on Israel Radio, Shavit said "I am realistic. The meaning is we have to relate to the process with caution and wisdom and not get swept up by it,"

Shavit referred to the optimistic forecasts of then-IDF intelligence chief: Maj.-Gen. Uri Saguy, who until his departure insisted that Assad, in agreeing to negotiate with Israel, had decided on a change of strategy that meant abandonment of war. Saguy's view was not adopted by much of his corps but served as a basis_for then-prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's decision to offer

ISRAELI women have very clear

ideas about the number of chil-

dren they want and how they

should be spaced, according to a

family; two children are the mini-

mum and she will do anything to

have those children," Ilana

Ziegler, incoming director of the

Israeli Family Planning Associa-

"But after she has those two,

especially a secular woman will

want to wait about four years be-

fore having more. If she has an

abortion before the third child is

born, it doesn't mean she doesn't

want that child, but that she

wants to have it later," she said.

curtail legal abortions could

backfire, Ziegler said. A woman

who has a pregnancy that is un-

wanted - for whatever reason -

will do almost anything to have

an abortion, and complications

from an illegal abortion might

prevent a woman from having the

number 'cif children she planned'

research she conducted for her

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to drawe eventually. To THA 3 2011 was one of the most surprising

doctorate in demographics for economic levels, religious or sec-

groups. One was arrested in A-Ram, in the Ramal-

Ziegler's findings result from findings of the study, she said.

pected of either belonging to or aiding terror iya, in the Hebron District.

Thus, any attempt to further

"The Israeli woman wants a

expert on demography.

tion, said yesterday.

Syria significant concessions in Damascus's demand for the Golan Heights.

"We have to test very carefully and basically the real intentions of President Assad," Shavit said. "I think the assessments of a change in direction in strategy were quite premature and we still have to look for indicators, signs, and evidence of a real will by President Assad."

Sources close to Shavit recalled that for several years, the tacitum Mossad chief would argue with Shimon Peres over Assad's policy. Shavit and his colleagues in the Mossad's research department asserted that the Syrian president was using the peace talks to win US support and

Expert: Larger apartments

would lead to larger families

the Hebrew University. Her fo-

cus was what she calls "the criti-

cal child" - the first pregnancy in

which a woman has doubts about

carrying it to term. Her subjects

were 1,751 women, representing

all married Jewish women be-

According to Ziegler, her re-

search team invested tremendons

effort to locate the women and

persuade reluciant ones (espe-

cially in the haredi community) to

participate in the study, so as to

get the most accurate response

nity, even among some haredim,

there is an attempt to control the

size of the family," Ziegler said.

"Religious women say they want

to have as many children as God

gives them. But the number they

actually have corresponds very

closely to the number the woman

believes she can bring up in her

The importance of living space

"Across all backgrounds, socio-

Army arrests five suspected members of terror groups

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taking the steps that would achieve peace with Israel.

'As Shavit saw it, Assad felt a peace treaty with Israel, particularly one that would include open borders, would threaten his regime, sources close to him said.

The Mossad view was adopted by Peres's deputy, Minister Yossi Beilin. After failing to win Syrian approval for intensive talks earlier this year, Peres eventually agreed as well, diplomatic sources said.

For his part, Shavit suggested that Assad's participation in the peace process remains tactical. "I am still not altogether convinced that he made the required turn for sincere peace that will include all the attributes of normaliza-

ular, many women said they want

more children than they can bring

up in their apartments. Increas-

ing the apartment size would be

the greatest incentive to having

Most pregnancies in this country

are wanted: The absolute number

of annual abortions, both legal and

illegal, has not risen as the popula-

tion has grown; it has even de-

clined slightly in the past 15 years.

About 16,000 legal abortions are

The number of illegal abor-

tions each year, 4,000 to 6,000,

was calculated by Dr. Eitan Saba-

tello, the demographer responsi-

ble for all family statistics at the

Central Bureau of Statistics, who

Using a formula for calculating

the number of abortions which she

developed for her MA thesis,

Ziegler found that attempts in

Eastern European countries to in-

crease the birth rate by outlawing

abortions turned out to be an abys-

mal failure. "The birth rate did not

Ziegier recently completed a

Jerusalem Post Staff

report on fertility for the Labor

and Social Affairs Ministry's De-

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change one iota," she said."

mographic Center.

more children."

performed annually.

died a few months ago.



from right) and Helen Shah at Beit Hanassi yesterday.

New drug tracked down to save man's life

A TENACIOUS wife, a learned brother-in-law, alert doctors, and dedicated customs workers helped save the life of a Jerusalem man by obtaining an effective new drug whose import had been approved by the Health Ministry only a few days ago.

Dr. Robert Werman, 67, who teaches neurophysiology at the weeks ago with serious chest open-heart surgery. Doctors performed a diagnostic catheterizabypass vessels that had been implanted in his heart were comcoronary arteries had a clot

were aware of a US drug meant for exactly such extreme situations, but they knew it had been approved only very recently and doubted it could be brought in Hebrew University, was admitted fast enough to help. Werman's to Bikur Holim Hospital two wife Golda called her brother, an internist at Mt. Sinai Hospital in pains. He has a history of heart New York, who said it was vital disease and previously underwent that the drug - Eli Lilly's ReoPro

Golda contacted Ruti Armoni, tion and found that some of the a local representative of Eli Lilly, who made many calls to try to locate the ReoPro shipment. pletely blocked and one of the They finally located it in a customs warehouse, where it had arwhose location made balloon rived the same day. It was found and rushed to Bikur Holim.

Werman, who is now feeling well and due to be discharged today, said the drug reduced the fatality rate in cases like his from 20% to 4%, and the re-blockage rate from 35% to 5%. He expressed his gratitude to all who oined forces in the complex effort to get the drug.

Four youths jailed for beating man over scooter

FOUR youths who beat a man with a club, causing him severe brain damage, because they thought he stole a motorscooter from one of them, were sentenced vesterday to up to four years in

The injured man is hospitalized at Beit Loewenstein, where he is on a respirator and fed through tubes, with little or no chance of recovery. Judge Natan Amit characterized the crime as one step below manslaughter.

All four were convicted by the Tel Aviv District Court of conspiring to commit a crime, while two were also convicted of aggravated assault. One of the four was sentenced to four years in jail and 18 months' probation, and had his driver's license revoked for 10 vears. Another was sentenced to 2½ years in jail and 18 months' probation, while the other two received 18 months' jail and public

Amit said that in his years on the bench, "I have never encountered such cruel and despicable behavior as in this case." (Itim)

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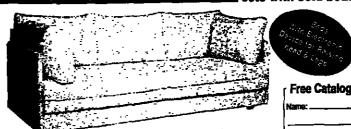
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Change policy on Syria

PEMARKS made by outgoing Mossad head Shabtai Shavit in his first on-therecord interview should give premierelect Binyamin Netanyahu pause. Disputing assessments by army intelligence, which have assumed the invincibility of conventional wisdom, Shavit expressed doubts about Syrian dictator Hafez Assad's much touted "strategic decision" for peace.

"I am still not completely convinced that he has actually made the necessary turning to reach a true and sincere peace, which includes full normalization," Shavit told Yediot Aharonot. "I believe the Syrian president's real intentions must be subjected to a very, very careful and fundamental examination. I think the assessments about strategic departures were premature, and we must still search for signs and evidence of Assad's real desire for peace with

Purely coincidentally, the interview was published a day after the German magazine Stern broke the news of a gigantic chemical weapons plant in Aleppo in northern Syria, similar to the chemical weapons plant being built in Libya. The similarity is not coincidental. The same German firm, headed by Hans Joachim Rose (now on trial in Stuttgart for violating arms export laws), has been instrumental in building

Evidence of the awesome dimensions of these plants, said to be the largest of their kind, has been provided by American spy satellites. Both have been built underground, and the CIA believes the tunnels in which they are largely hidden are indestructible by conventional weapons. (A worrisome footnote to the story is that Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak, who will confer with Assad in Damascus tomorrow, has vehemently denied the existence of the Libyan plant despite irrefutable satellite evidence and the American threat to bomb it.)

Syria has neither confirmed nor denied the Stern story, and the magazine asserts that Israel and the US have been silent about the monstrous project, because they fear it would undermine the peace process. Obviously, a huge investment in poison gas and other non-conventional capabilities by a backward dictatorship is hardly an indication of its strategic decision for

peace. Nor should Netanyahu ignore this week's arrests in Syria of 400 citizens of Turkmen origin. This followed bombings throughout the country by what Damascus describes as Turkish agents. Altogether 10 explosions have been reported in Damascus, Aleppo, Latakia, and Kamishliye, presumably in retaliation for Syria's support of the Kurdish PKK underground. One of these explosives is reported to have gone off at the PKK headquarters in the heart of Damascus, causing 70 deaths. Officially, Damascus has denied these reports, but the State Department has warned American travelers in Syria to be cautious.

The relevance to Israel of Syria's involvement with the PKK is that Damascus has signed agreements with Turkey to stop such support. As Turkish officials repeatedly tell Israelis, no one is better equipped to refute the notion that Assad is a man of his word than the Turkish

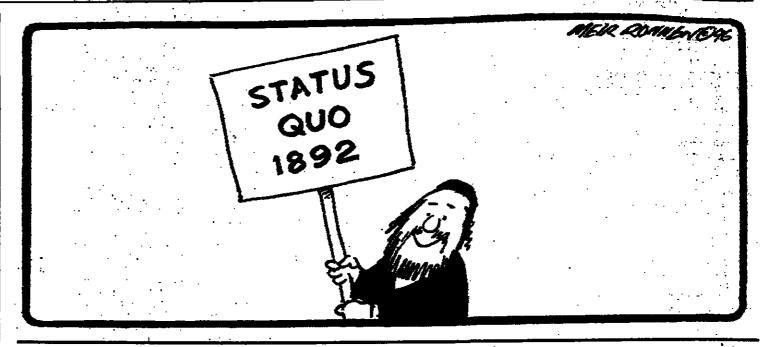
As if to prove this point, Hizbullah attacks (which, as Prime Minister Shimon Peres had hoped, were largely suspended until the elections) have significantly increased in recent days. Some of these attacks, like the bombs on roads used by Israeli patrols which killed four Israeli soldiers this week, are not technically in violation of the post-Grapes of Wrath understandings. More recent attacks definitely are. Obviously, Syria intends to escalate such attacks by its proxies to test the mettle of the new government.

This does not mean that Syria has decided to shun the negotiations. It has no objection to an agreement which would give Syria the whole Golan, control of Israel's water sources on the Heights and part of the Kinneret, and the withdrawal of Israeli troops and their South Lebanese Army allies from Lebanon.

That Assad failed to receive all that from the Labor government was due solely to his refusal to pay for such egregious Israeli concessions with minimal security arrangements on the Golan Heights and the normalization of relations with Israel. Like most dictators, he clearly believes that no territorial prize is worth the risk of opening his country to Western democratic influences, and chances are he will continue to reject Israel's natural demand for normalization.

During the election campaign, Netanyahu said that he would strive for a partial arrangement with Syria rather than a "comprehensive; peace," which would entail Israeli withdrawal. from the Golan. But to expect Assad to agree to such an arrangement under present circumstances is illusory if the American-Israeli appeasement policies continue.

Dictators like Assad, Muammar Gaddafi, and Saddam Hussein cannot be appeased. And unless Syria is subjected to the same kind of international pressure now being exerted against Libya and Iraq, it will continue to threaten Israel's security no matter what concessions Israel makes. Netanyahu's first task on his visit to the US this month is to convince Washington of the futility of the current policy and the need for a thorough and far-reaching reassessment.



Too quick to telephone Gaza

REALLY, Binyamin Netan-yahu wouldn't have missed anything had be waited for the inauguration of the new government before instructing his adviser, Dr. Dore Gold, to give Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) a call in Gaza. He would have done far better to wait for Arafat to call him with congratulations on his

election. What did Netanyahu gain in return for promising to uphold the Oslo agreement? Yasser Arafat's serving notice in Akaba that he plans, very soon, to declare an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital - in violation of Oslo, and without negotia-

tions with Israel. On internal matters Netanyahu has acted as cautiously as possible. He hasn't told even his friends how he plans to allocate cabinet positions. He checks every move like the excellent chess player he is.

But on the most sensitive issue of all, the one that was central to the entire election campaign, he made a tactical error, taking a hasty initiative without considering the implications.

Certainly advice from the Americans, who fear the breakingoff of negotiations, should not be ignored; but this alone was no reason for the call to Abu Mazen. Nor should the call have been publicized. That handed the Palestinian Authority an initial gain without obliging it to make any reciprocal gesture to Israel's new administra-

if Netanyahu felt he needed to convey the message, that he is ready to continue the talks, he could have routed it through MOSHE ZAK

Washington, or even sent it via the calls to Jordan's King Hussein and Egypt's Hosni Mnbarak that he care described by the care desc made the same day.

In his first public speech, Netanyahu was careful not to mention the PA as such, and the authority was incensed by references to negotiations with "the Palestinians," and not "the Palestinian Authority."

complex issues. NETANYAHU should first of all have made it clear to Arafat that the

new government isn't yet in power, and that he has to be patient while all the agreements made with him and their implications are studied.

Netanyahu should realize that where the Palestinians are concerned, more haste means less speed

.Netanyahu's implication was that recognition of the PA will be conditional on the fulfillment of its commitments. Or, more bluntly: no more free lunches.

Progress in the negotiations will depend on give and take. The Palestinians won't be able to challenge Israeli jurisdiction over Jerusalem, and at the same time threaten a renewed intifada as a means of pressuring Israel to withdraw from Hebron.

But that phone call to Abu Mazen

suaded Shimon Peres to postpone withdrawal until after the elections. Now that the religious parties constitute an important coalition factor, there is certainly no reason to sured by PA attempts to persuade

Even if the new government goes ahead with everything signed by its predecessor, it is still entitled to decide on tempo and detail. In this transitional period it is entitled to a little time, and needn't be pressured by dates decided by the outgoing government.

The agreement on Hebron refers

not to total withdrawai, only to redeployment. The new government is entitled to confirm that no promises of withdrawal have been made. In the context of redeployblurred the signal.

Why the hurry to clear the fog pose a continuous string of IDF surrounding the government's posts from Kiryat Arba to the steps on Hebron? The religious Dewish quarter in Hebron. It can parties; then in epposition; per- also negotiate the methods of implementing the agreement, without needing to accept the mayor of Hebron's interpretation.

Netanyahu need not feel pres-

that we are in breach of the agree-

All the hasty phone call to the Palestinians did was leave them with the impression that the new government is ready to begin negotiations now - when, clearly, it needs first to get organized and shape its overall policies. Arafat must understand this. And

he must understand that he can hardly expect the IDF to withdraw from Hebron if he is planning to declare an independent state straight afterwards. One thing Israel must preserve is its ability to foil gross breaches of the agree-

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Arafat needs to understand that his aides cannot start fanning the flames of opposition to Israel before the negotiations have even begun. And he needs to see that provocations - like the Arafatappointed mufti of Jerusalem declaring the struggle will continue under the flag of jihad - won't go down well with the new govern-

Implementing the Hebron agreement will be high on Netanyahu's agenda, but it might not remain there if Arafat is perceived as using it to trigger the declaration of a Palestinian state.

The government needs space to think and plan. This can only aid realistic, threat-free communication with the Palestinians.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHERE WERE YOU, MARK HELLER?

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Sir, - Really, Mark Heller "Investment in need of protection," (May 31), where were you during the last four years? When you remind Mr. Netanyahu that he is the "prime minister of all of us," your words wax thin. How the whole environment of the last four years might have been different had you demanded the same from the late Yitzhak Rabin and from Shimon Peres. They chose to ignore at least 50 percent of the citizens of this country and you did not write one word of protest.

The same can be said of your advising Netanyahu not to let public discourse "descend into the gutter of coarse incitement and crude vindictiveness" ("they can spin like propellers," I don't care what they think," "we have a majority"). You tell him to "keep your promises"? Did you once remind or advise the previous prime ministers to keep their promises about the Golan Heights, about negotiations with the PLO, about a Palestinian state?

Now that a prime minister has been elected with a clear plurality, and a clear majority of like-minded political parties (not, with all due respect, anti-Zionist communist and Arab factions), you tell him to follow policies that the majority of people oppose? Mr. Heller, I suggest that you turn your analysis to your like-minded fellows and advise them to be less arrogant and disrespectful of the democratic process. It is time for you to accept the rules of democracy.

PHASED PLAN

S.R. SAMPSON

Sir, - Aside from the fact that the PNC charter has not been amended, has there been any discussion mentioned by Israel or PLO officials about rescinding the 1974 PLO 'phased plan' of liberating Palestine, which they (the PLO) seem to be implementing now? I don't recall it being mentioned in the Oslo

D. SEROWITZ

AMERICAN SUPPORT

Sir. - The effectiveness of President Clinton's exhortations on behalf of Mr. Peres was undermined by many of the American Administration's own actions in recent months, such as:

1) opposing Congressional efforts to move the US Embassy to Jerusalem: 2) instructing Ambassador Indyk

to boycott the opening of the "Jerusalem 3000" celebrations; 3) joining with Mr. Peres in an attempt to whitewash the PLO's failure to amend its covenant, and 4) refusing to commute the prison

sentence of Jonathan Pollard Many Israelis no doubt appreciate President Clinton's supportive rhetoric, but actions speak louder than words.

STANLEY P. HAAR Netanya.

'GOOD FOR JEWS'

Sir, - I am an ordinary Jewish grandmother living in Israel for the last 45 years. You will find grandmothers like me by the thousands who brought up children to love and serve their country with all they have, because it is "good for Jews."

It is not yet a week since I went up to Jerusalem to Yad Vashem, because, in one single night, nine members of my immediate family choked to death in the gas chambers of Birkenau - father, mother, grandfather, sisters, brother, brother-inlaw, and my sister's two children all in one night, because they were Jews. I was beaten and suffered hunger, humiliation, cold and mental torture in Birkenau and other camps,

only because I was a Jew. The last four years when hatred and division in the country were encouraged by the fanatic left - that was not "good for Jews." I am sure that our new prime minister and members of the new government and Knesset will do everything to reunite us. I, personally, pledge to do all I can to bridge the differences between the various factions because it is "good for Jews."

LEA FUCHS CHAYEN Tel Aviv.

MORE BLOOD LIBEL Sir, - As so it continues. This

time in the main Brazilian news magazine Veia - circulation 1,250,000 (Eye on the Media, May

Reporting on the Kana incident, Veja stated that Israeli voters are the only ones in the whole world who let the slaughter of civilians determine how they cast their vote. This coming from a country (Brazil) where there's a policy of getting rid of the hundreds of children living on the streets with the use of death squads, where three or four unwanted street children are murdered every day by the authorities in Rio alone, makes me wonder how the editor and reporters at Veja cast their

The reason that the world media keep lying about Kana is that the truth, that UN forces allow terrorists to shelter in UN compounds after shelling civilians, would give the UN less credence than it already has in the Middle East, where oil determines not only votes, but also actions.

MELVIN SIMONS . Kfar Hanassi.

SOPHISTICATED ELECTORATE

Sir, - Newspapers have been full of reports that Mr. Barak accuses Mr. Ramon of losing the election. In your issue of June 2, Mr. Ramon agrees that he is partly to blame for Labor losing the election.

I strongly object to this and am most indignant that the political parties treat the Israeli voters as somany statistics and as a public that must be sold an election in the same way that advertisers sell holidays abroad or frozen peas.

The Israeli public is much more sophisticated than it is given credit for Mr. Peres lost the election because the majority of the citizens of this country rejected his method of dealing with the PLO and his pandering to Mr. Arafat and because they believed that he was mistaken. in his dream of a New Middle East. YEKUTIEL BARETTI

Jerusalem.

results under the old system, with the president choosing a prime minister-designate to put together a majority coalition. Shimon Peres emerged from these elections as the leader of the largest party in the Knesset. The religious bloc and the center parties were prepared to go either way.

Would President Ezer Weizman have chosen Peres, or would he have chosen Binyamin Netanyahu? Chances are that he would have pushed for a national unity government, regardless of his choice of prime minister-designate. Chances are that this is exactly what he is doing today.

Let's hope so. Given the fractured composition of the new Knesset, this is the option that is best for the political system as a whole. The direct election of the prime minister has not given us a Gaullist president, on the model of the present Fifth Republic in France, but a multi-party parliament like that of the Fourth Republic that preceded it and brought France to the brink of chaos.

The direct election of the prime minister has little effect on the bargaining power of the religious bloc. True, the religious parties don't have a rival prime ministerial candidate to turn to. But neither does the prime minister-elect have an alternative coalition partner - unless he opts for a national

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

The good news and the bad news

ID the direct election of the prime minister change the election results? Imagine the same Knesset unity government.

The hope that direct elections would curtail the blackmail potential of small parties was based on their supposed disinclination to risk a dissolution of the Knesset and new elections. This reluctance exists, but it varies from party to party. It is least operative in the religious camp, particularly in the haredi sector,

The Likud has less strength in the Knesset than its putative coalition partners. Netanyahu's immediate problem is to secure a majority in his own government. It could prove insoluble.

THERE IS good news and bad news in the recent elections. The good news is in the moderation of the positions of both Labor and

This election generated both – and the only rational next step is clear

because the risk of the lost of popular support is minimal. By and large, religious voters

do as they are told. Netanyahu has more to lose in new elections than do the Torah sages, and both sides are well aware of it.

The direct election of the prime

minister has moved our party system into a new era. Until the rise to power of the Likud, under Menachem Begin's leadership, in 1977, Israel had one major party, which could form a majority coalition with partners to its left and to its right. Since 1977, there have been two major blocs, whose competition dominated coalition

politics. In today's multi-party system, there is no dominant party, and no emergent two-party system.

the Likud with regard to the peace process. This was a consequence of the fact that the great mass of voters, for whose support the two candidates competed in the direct election of the prime minister, were somewhere in the center of

the political map. The positions of the contenders approached one another, since they were appealing to the same public, which rejected extremism. Hence the split voting, with Peres running well ahead of his party and Meretz combined, gaining votes from parties on the right.

The bad news is that the race for prime minister preempted the stage for the two major parties. Both the Likud and Labor became largely one-issue parties - peace and security. In the course of the campaign, as positions moderated and even coalesced, they became no-issue parties.

In effect, they ceased to perform the essential function of political parties - to aggregate separate interests into a common political framework.

In the campaign, this meant that the major parties completely neglected economic and social issues. In the Knesset balloting, it meant that the minor parties, representing special interests, gained strength at the expense of both the Likid and Labor.

This produced a result which both parties should regard as unacceptable.

Even if Netanyahu succeeds in putting together a coalition with the religious bloc and the two center parties, constant internal bickering and parliamentary instability seems unavoidable. The only consolation is that, if a slight shift in the popular vote had produced a Peres victory, the outlook would be even worse.

On the other hand, the moderation of the public as a whole on the security and peace process issues provides an opportunity for the Likud and Labor to join forces. When Yossi Beilin, a veteran opponent of the idea of a national unity government, declares that there is a chance for a settlement with the Palestinians acceptable to the great mass of Israelis, he knows what he is talking about.

The writer is a social and political commentator.

POSTSCRIPTS |

BACK IN 1950, Amold Neustadter merely wanted to clean up the office desk. But when he died recently at 85, his invention had evolved from the secretary's humble assistant to the powerbroker's mighty weapon.

For Neustadter had created the Rolodex, the cylindrical rotating alphabetical card file that became the American establishment's very symbol of access.

"Hollywood put it in films and television, and then everyone believed it," Neustadter's son-inlaw. David Revasch, said: "The bigger the Rolodex, the bigger the man."

What kind of man was New Yorker Arnold Neustadter? "The most organized man I ever knew," Revasch said. "His

life was so organized it was like his own invention. He could have patented his own life." Predictably, he praised the

condition of the founder's "Whenever anyone put something on it that didn't belong there, he'd move it," Revasch

said. "Nothing ever stayed on his desk very long." Neustadter joined his father's box-making business in 1931, but soon left to start his own company. He had several unsuccessful inventious, including the Swivodex (a spill-proof inkwell) and

could clip to their knees to take Then came Rolodex, which went on sale in 1950.

the Clipodex, a device secretaries

"I knew I had a good idea, but people were skeptical at first," he recalled in 1988. A Rolodex cost \$7.95, "and we had trouble get-ting stationery stores to buy it."

ANY MARRIED couple in an English village who can prove they have not argued, nor regretted their marriage, for a year and a day, will be awarded a flitch of .. bacon in a curious ancient cere-

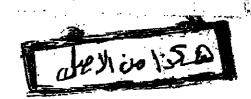
The Dunmow Flitch Trials is an ancient custom held every four years in Great Dunmow, Essex. When it originated in 1104 cou-ples had to "... swear to the truth of this statement whilst kneeling upon two hard, pointed stones in the churchyard." Today, the event takes the form of a light-

hearted court, presided over by a judge with a jury of six maidens and six bachelors.

DAVE WILSHER was going to see the new movie at the local drive-in, but he was deterred by a savage tornado. The movie he didn't get to see was called Twister - and it's about tornadoes.

The real-life storm in southwestern Ontario smashed twoton trucks, flattened homes and barns and blew away the drive-in movie theater showing the film.

Wilsher was on his way to see Twister at the St. Catharines drive-in when the real thing "hit like a wall." When he got to the theater, the screen was destroyed.



The hard truth is that the recent

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OPINION

New Likud, same old realities

ONSENSUS means that everyone says collectively what no one believes individually. It would therefore be prudent to avoid predicting Israel's policies by reference to election rhetoric alone.

The 1996 election was pro--claimed throughout the world as the most crucial in our nation's history. But that judgment was based on the assumption that Israel faces a new diversity of options, ranging from accelerated fulfillment of the Rabin-Peres 1993 peace process to the renewal of Israeli militancy through the denunciation of the Oslo agreements and a repudiation of the PLO-Israeli accords.

I watched the elections carefully, and my own impressions lead me to conclude that Prime Ministerelect Binyamin Netanyahu's options are in fact more restricted than those of any of his predeces-

First, he is constrained by the contractual principle which works for continuity. Second, he faces the reality that the peace process has always been more popular in Israel than any alternative policy. A third factor is that the new prime minister's style and prag-

tism and territorial passions of his Orthodox constituents. Fourth, the idea of withdrawing from the sliver of Hebron in which a few hundred Jewish zealots live in an abrasive relationship with

matic demeanor are sharply dis-

cordant with the rigorous dogma-

ABBA EBAN

over 120,000 passionate Moslems is specifically required by the Oslo agreement. But Netanyahu's enthusiasm for facing the Hebron issue seems to lie between the cold

and tepid water taps.
Finally, Netanyahu is not insensitive to the joys of international summitry. There is no reason why he should be. No wonder that he seems reluctant to begin his stewardship by alienating the US, the European Union, and the North African and Gulf Arab states

TO ADD to the complicated story, Netanyahn had a dream in which Hafez Assad was heard saying: This is the deal: We give you a peace treaty and you keep the whole of the Golan." The dream

now faces its testing ground. In the deplorable artillery adventure that probably sealed the doom of Shimon Peres's election campaign, Netanyahu called for more and more shelling, not for less and

By the time these lines see the

public light, the New Likud may

have taken measures in greater

harmony with the hard-fisted tra-

ditions of Ariel Sharon and Rafael Eltan, but their demeanor at this

writing finds them in a mood of

low expectation. They seem to be

a luxury the Netanyahu adminis-

The popular sport of Israeli

newspapermen at this moment is

speculation about the date of

Netanyahu's inevitable handshake

with Yasser Arafat. When this hap-

pens, Yitzhak Rabin, like Hamlet's

restless ghost, will allow his spirit

to rest and his face to break into

something that could look like an

tration cannot afford.

A week after the 'crucial' election Israeli opinion is still rooted nostalgically in the Oslo experience

whom Shimon Peres advoitly added to the candidates for his 'New Middle East."

A week after the "crucial" election, Israeli opinion is still rooted nostalgically in the Oslo experi-

The election was theoretically fought on the issue of "individual security," but if Likud leaders knew of a prescription for preventing young Moslem fanatics from exploding themselves and innocent travelers on buses, they would have patriotically shared their secret with Rabin and Peres long ago.
Might it be that no such panacea

past does not run away; the new state is not all that free of the old inscriptions. This truth was expounded on Israeli TV this week by Avraham

Shohat, Israel's Pickwickian finance minister (a pity that more Americans never encountered his

jovial pungency).
In clearing his papers prema-turely from his desk in the Finance Ministry, Shohat reflected on the legacy that Rabin and Peres are bequeathing to their successors.

The heritage includes a bustling economy with Pacific Rim potential, a GNP rating that would delight any major industrial power, and a wider breach than israel has ever known in the Great Wall of Arab and Moslem hostility. There is also a series of commercial commitments that may still carry the area to an unexpected renewal of its vitality.

Oslo is a much more stubborn reality than anything yet put in its place. Netanyahu's problem is that the much-maligned peace process was a success story.

There is a double moral in this

new reality. First: there is more paradox than logic in history. Second: every generation stands tall on the shoulders of its predecessors, and boasts loudly of its own farsightedness.

The writer was Israel's foreign



Manipulation of minds

S we all take a rest from the excitement of the Laclose election results, one group of people has become busier than ever.

The cleanup crews of the local authorities have been returning our streets, intersections and public billboards to some semblance of neatness. It will take a long time before all signs of the campaign are totally removed from our walls and public places.

Driving along the highways of Israel in the period leading up to the elections, one couldn't help but be taken with the vast quantities of posters and stickers. True, it was often hard to differentiate between the colors - and messages - of the two major parties, but this didn't deter the campaign managers from investing huge sums of public money in this highly visual form of per-

Much of the physical work involved was carried out by children, many of whom took great delight in their ability to put up their posters, remove the opposition's, distribute stickers and

shout slogans. For many, it was a form of public behavior forbidden during the rest of the year. When else, after all, can you deface public buildings, affix stickers secretly on parked cars and simply have a good shouting match with friends/rivals without being told to to go and clean up the mess or

to quiet down? But the use of children, by all political parties from Meretz to Moledet, to distribute electoral material is not a game. It is a disturbing phenomenon - a kind of political pedophilia - whose legitimacy needs to be exam-

In the first place, the children are placed in a situation of physical danger. They stand at major

DAVID NEWMAN

intersections, at entrances to towns and settlements, often rushing between cars and trucks to offer drivers stickers. Traffic lights change and traffic starts moving with these children stuck in the middle of the highway.

Many drivers are exasperated by the multitude of youngsters at each and every intersection especially when the political message on sale goes contrary to their own preferences - and pump the accelerator with little care for danger.

There is also a moral problem

Using children in the election game is political pedophilia pure and simple

here. These children are all still in full-time education. They have not yet reached the age of Some would argue that this is a

way of making the children politically aware - but this is not the objective of the political parties who recruit them. The parties are seeking a cheap, in some cases free, reservoir of people who will do the physical, black work that the party leaders and candidates would never do except, of course, in those situations where the media have been given prior notice. When the children are no more

than eight- or nine-year-old political innocents, their use is even more obnoxious. They regurgitate slogans and names which have little meaning for them. They are socialized into believing that politics is about shouting the opposition, about laying claim to the intersection, shop entrance or electric pylon before your rival can get there.

THE political exploitation of children is particularly disturbing among the national religious youth. Many of the State Religious schools and yeshivot have become recruiting grounds for the mass mobilization of youth, often during school time, as a means of promoting political

The heavier Likud presence in many public spaces was a result of the fact that the party was able to make use of the most regimented and committed group of volunteers, namely national religious youth.

Having opted for the Netanyahu-National Religious Party ticket, the religious schoolchildren and yeshiva students were successfully recruited to the cause. Wherever there were Netanyahu stickers and posters, there were kippot. This was a volunteer army to which the

Labor Party had no access. We want our children to be politically aware and sensitive. We want them to feel involved and grow into responsible and caring citizens. But we cannot achieve this by manipulating them for our adult political objectives. That only teaches them to become partisan, nonthinking young adults.

Political parties from across the spectrum should consider legislating laws forbidding the future use of children in this

The writer is a senior faculty member and director of the Humphrey Institute for Social Research at Ben-Gurion

About rearranging priorities

TE pride ourselves on living in a democracy.

Many of us went to sleep on election night disappointed or relieved, and woke up to the exact opposite emotion.

Yet, most citizens in Israel, depressed or elated, accepted the verdict dictated by the democratic

It was the media that had a great deal of difficulty accepting results that were not to their liking. I read an editorial by a highly

respected journalist in a very respected newspaper in which the newly-elected government was urged to keep in mind that half the population holds views and ideologies diametrically opposed to those of the newly elected majori-

This smacks of sour grapes. :: Over the last four years, the government ruled with a very slight majority. Yet that did not prevent it from treating half the population like second-class citizens - with contempt, arrogance,

scom and delegitimation. The prime minister - both the late Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres - made very little attempt to reach out to those estranged citizens, and even less effort to function as prime minister of all the people.

The words that came out of that esteemed office were in the spirit of "As long as I have a majority of one, I am entitled to do whatever I want; the fact that many of you feel estranged is entirely your problem."

This blind, self-serving rightcousness didn't sit well with half

the people of Israel. I was present at a live program of Nightline aired in Jerusalem **ESTHER WACHSMAN**

shortly after the Rabin assassination, in which Haim Ramon was on the panel. At one point, Ramon turned to representatives of the right on the panel and said: "This is a democracy, and if you don't come around to our way of thinking and join us, we will crush

There was a collective gasp from the audience. As for moderator Ted Koppel, he couldn't believe his ears. He asked Ramon if he was aware of the discrepancy between democracy and the

close Yeshivot Hesder, Bar-Ilan University was termed a hotbed of extreme fanaticism. Hysteria was at its height, the

unity and solidarity of the Jewish people in Zion at its ebb. Those in power did not explore the ways of THAT IS what boomeranged.

Peres probably expected to float into power on a sympathy vote. How can we explain the phenomenon of 55% of the Jewish

vote going against him? There are Sour grapes make an unpalatable

meal. It is time for brothers to seek peace with each other

words "we will caush you." It was just the day after the assassination, when almost everybody was aware of the power of verbal abuse, and being very cantions about what they said.

I personally felt like the victim of a blood libel at that time. In fact, anyone associated with the national religious camp was regarded as a potential murderer, an obstacle to peace. Even the motto "No to violence,

yes to peace" was an example of vile propaganda. The implication was that anyone who did not wholeheartedly support the peace process as it was then being implemented was the personification of violence.

The tragedy was exploited by demonizing the opposition, by blaming them for it. The Deputy Minister of Defense threatened to

several possible answers. :-The first is Meretz. Those loval supporters of Peres were, in the oninion of many who favored the

The issue was not a division between the enlightened, secular population who wanted peace and the primitive, religious right-wing who were opposed.

peace process, his greatest sabo-

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid was directly responsible for the messages of hatred and pure venom that emanated from his platform, in which religious Jews were portrayed as frightening, "black". masses who "must be stopped," as we saw in their TV propaganda.

Can you imagine the reaction had there been a televised seg-ment showing Arabs in their mosques or markets, accompanied by an airing of similar senti-

The (Meretz-controlled) Education Ministry exhibited blatant hypocrisy when it called for changing our national anthem and removing the words "Judaism" and "Zionism" from the platform of all the youth movements because they discriminate against Arabs, and then denouncing the fact that many of the newly-elected Knesset members aren't "Zionists," and did not serve in the army.

The Arab vote was wooed intensively, despite the fact that the Arabs are not Zionists and do not serve in the army.

The platform of the extreme left on whose coattails the Labor government rode - was to change the "Jewish state" to the "state of all its citizens." But the majority of our people voted no.

For too long priorities have been distorted. Until we make peace with our brothers, until we can fulfill the commandment of loving them, we cannot possibly hope to make peace with our enemies.

The advice that Prime Minister

Peres's "historic mission is to aim. for reconciliation with the tinians and not with the religious .population" (Orit Shochat in a Ha' aretz editorial) has proved counterproductive.

We all yearn for peace, but not at the expense of destroying what Ben-Gurion called the "Jewish homeland in the Land of Israel."

The writer is a high school teacher. Her son Nachshon was killed by Hamas terrorists in

Sheinkin people & the man in the street

HEN stage director Ekdad Ziv was asked on TV what he would do if the Likud won the elections, he said, "I'll buy a sweater." Asked why, he explained, "Because it's cold in Paris."

I received a phone call in the same vein last Friday, after it became clear that Bibi Netanyahn would win the election for prime minister. "So are you packing?" asked my jour-

Later in the day at the newspaper stand an artist who lives in my neighborhood asked me, "Where shall we go? Australia? New Zealand?" And he chuckled imitably. This is the reaction of the Sheinkin

Wide Selection of Sizes

YOSEF LAPID

brigade, of the round-spectacle band, the Bohermans, the academics, the journalists, the Dedi Zuckers of this world. Someone has stolen their country and they're panicky and offended. The gates of paradise have shut in their faces. It's the nightmare of "77 all over again. Peace is in danger. Democracy has let them down.

I'm not convinced that the Bibi victory is what the country needed. But I get a kick out of seeing the frustration on the faces of my left-wing friends, who are acting like spoilt children whose toys have

What an ungrateful country Israel is. It just doesn't appreciate their exclusive contribution to our quality of life. What are we others worth without them? What'll we look like once they've left this poor, hopeless, silly country?
The kings of the swamp express

their attitude toward the common

people in tones of weary mitigation: What can you expect from a taxi driver, black-hat, or Likud politician? And if there is a professor somewhere around with right-wing views, you can forget about him -

intelligentsia and democracy has raised its head again. It does that every time the man in the street votes for what he wants, instead of what he ought to want.

he's crazy, and his academic work isn't worth wiping oneself with. The conflict between the left-wing

The author is an editorial writer for Ma'ariv.

stickers and slogans, about out-WORLD LEADING PRODUCTS.

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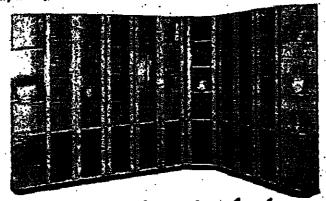
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Balkan arms deal expected to be signed by deadline

Negotiators from Bosnia, Croatia and rump Yugoslavia conferred with their capitals over final details of an arms control agreement, indicating an accord may be sealed by a deadline set vesterday.

"They have spoken to their capitals and we believe they are now talking again to one another," one diplomatic source said.

The closed-door talks were being mediated by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) which has insisted it will stick to the June 6 date set out in last October's Dayton agreement which ended four years of war in former Yugoslavia.

Croatia, rump Yugoslavia comprising Serbia and Montenegro, the Bosnian government, the Bosnian-Croat federation and the Bosniau Serbs are each represented at the arms negotiations.

Details on the arms cuts appeared to have been mostly finalized and diplomats said the package looked comprehensive and the inspections framework water-tight.

"It has all the elements for an important arms control regime. The sections dealing with onsite inspections and exchanges of information are looking good," one diplomat said.

One sticking point, however, hinged on how the individual parties were to be referred to in the text of an agreement.

The Bosnian government has opposed referring to Bosnian Serb territory as "Republika Srpska" although the name was written into the Dayton pact last October.

The Vienna talks, based on Article IV of the Dayton agreement, have sought to establish forces and weapons limits within the former Yugoslav federation to reduce the risk of any fresh conflict breaking out in the Balkan

Quotas should be set on the number of tanks, combat aircraft, assault helicopters and artillery of 75mm and above.

If the Balkan negotiators fail to conclude an agreement, arms reductions will revert to a formula set out in the Dayton agreement which requires rump Yugoslavia to cut its arms to 75 percent of current levels, the so-called "baseline" level.

Croatia and Bosnia would each be allocated 30 percent of the baseline, corresponding to the ratio of their populations.

Bosnian Serbs were unhappy with the way arms totals were to be split inside Bosnia with the allocation shared two-toone between the Moslem-Croat federation and the Serbs.

But the Dayton formula on arms cuts could falter over verification and on-site inspections. If the Balkan negotiators fail to initial an accord yesterday, they could also hamper any attempt by international inspectors to check they are adhering to the Dayton weapons quotas.

"If there is no agreement, it reverts to the Dayton agreement but there is no implementation regime set out other than a basic one," the source close to the talks said.

Nigerian police offer reward on Abiola murder

LAGOS (Reuter) - Nigerian police, under pressure to find the killers of the wife of a detained millionaire politician, yesterday offered a reward worth 20 times the average annual wage for information on

"A reward of one million naira (NIS 40,000) has been offered to anybody who could offer any information that will lead to the arrest of the suspects of this heinous crime." police spokesman Tunji

Alapini said in a statement. Pro-democracy opposition groups allege the military government was behind the death of Kudirat Abiola, the senior wife of detained presidential claimant Moshood Abiola, who was shot in the head on Tuesday while

driving on a Lagos street. Western nations have called for the culprits to be found and brought to book.

Kudirat. who campaigned for validation of the results of the 1993 presidential poll which her husband is believed to have won, was buried at the family home amidst much wailing and anger from Abiola's political

supporters.
The police statement said Nigeria's most senior detective was heading the investigation

into the murder which has sent political shockwaves through the volatile African nation.

"Archibong Nkana is our best man and he is leading the investigation which is already in full swing," said one officer. Nkana is deputy inspector

general of police in charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Intelligence at Alagbon Close in Lagos, the Nigerian equivalent of Scotland

The police offer compares with a 50,000 naira (NIS 7,600) reward posted two years ago for information on Abiola when he secretly proclaimed himself and then president disappeared.

No one got the reward as Abiola re-emerged two weeks later and was arrested and has since been held in the capital

While he was in detention, Kudirat had pursued his claim to the presidency, calling at every opportunity for his

Her eldest daughter Hafsat, a 20-year-old law student in the United States, vowed in a television interview there to take up her mother's struggle.

"We are going to take up the struggle," she told CNN, adding "She will not be let

We extend our deepest condolences to the Angel-Kerem family on the passing of

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Our thoughts are with you.

Benzi and Judy Alayoff Jackie and Derek Stein Kobi and Janet Meltzer Idele Ross and Norman Siepkov Julie and Shlomo Somekh

The unveiling of the tombstone of

SHELDON PHILIP SEIGEL 77

will take place at the Kfar Etzion cemetery on Sunday, June 9, 1996 at 4:30 p.m. Siyum mishnayot will follow at the Rav Tachliti Hall, Efrat, at 5:30 p.m.

We will hold the unveiling for the monument to our father

JACK ROSENFELD TO

on Monday, June 10, 1996 at 7 p.m. Meeting in the parking lot of Har Hamenuhot,

> Shella Zucker Karen Roekard



Hungarian arm-wrestling champion Arpad Nick yesterday pulls a 17-ton Russian-made Jak-40 aircraft with his teeth in arc effort to make it into the 'Gninness Book of Records.' Nick was successful in his attempt to pull the aircraft a distance of 11 meters, but had to be revived after fainting when he completed the feat.

Russian-Chechen cease-fire talks set to end in deadlock

RUSSIAN and Chechen officials said talks on consolidating a ceasefire to end their 18month war were dragging and faced an end without an agreement last night.

"The negotiations are extraordinarily complicated," rebel spokesman Moviadi Udugov told reporters in Nazran, capital of the ethnic region of Ingushetia bordering Chechnya, where the talks were in their third day.

He told Itar-Tass news agency this round of talks would end yesterday "whether they have attained any results or not".

The head of the Russian delegation, Nationalities Minister Vyacheslav Mikhailov, was earlier quoted by Interfax news agency as saying the Chechen separatist side was taking "an unconstructive and unrealistic position".

He accused them of going back on an agree-ment reached by President Boris Yeltsin and Chechen separatist leader Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev on May 27, which produced a shaky provisional ceasefire last Friday and initiated talks on exchanging prisoners and withdrawing Russian troops in return for rebel disarmament.

Yeltsin faces a tight battle with his communist opponent in the presidential election on June 16 and is keen to show he has made peace in the conflict, which has cost more than 30,000 lives: He told voters in Tver yesterday that the war was over.

NAZRAN, Russia

Trying to reinvigorate a lackluster campaign, Gennady Zyuganov meanwhile renewed his offer to other presidential candidates for their support.

The Communist Party leader, who analysts say has been thoroughly outcampaigned by President Boris Yeltsin, touted his proposal on his arrival in the Siberian city of Krasnoyarsk.

He told the ITAR-Tass news agency that his invitation to Grigory Yavlinsky, Svyatos-lav Fyodorov and Alexander Lebed was "a very serious and responsible move," and said he'd like to see them in what he termed a "people's confidence government." So far, all three have rejected alliances with

The Communist floated his offer this week in Novosibirsk and reiterated it yesterday. "They have respect for their homeland and a desire to help it," Zyuganov was quoted as

"If they are against the present course, we are ready to pool our efforts." He emphasized that his invitation also is extended to other prominent politicians such as Stanislav Go-

vorukhin and Sergei Glazyev, not just the three presidential candidates. For weeks, it was Yeltsin who worked fe-

verishly to try to line up other candidates behind him. But those efforts were effectively put on hold late last month as new polls suggested Yeltsin had overtaken Zyuganov even with-

out a coalition. Voter surveys have proven notoriously inaccurate in Russia because of people's reluctance to state their true preferences, but the candidates in the June 16 presidential election

are paying close attention to them. Fiery ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky, running third or fourth in the polls, has in recent days been relentlessly stating his willingness to join a coalition with either of the two front-runners.

Both Yeltsin and Zyuganov have shunned his appeals, although Zhirinovsky's millions of supporters are likely to take on added significance in an expected runoff in July. Speaking on Russian Public Television. Zhirinovsky said he cannot be rebuked for failing to take steps to form a broad coalition "to settle a crisis if there is any after June 16th." I hope we'll have free elections, with-

are announced," he said.

Pol Pot's death rumored

PHNOM PENH (Reuter) - The Cambodian government tried yesterday to check reports that Pol Pot may have died as rumors flew about the fate of the secretive Khmer Rouge commander.

Pol Pot, now 68 and known to have long suffered from malaria, has not been seen in public since the late 1970s after a massive Vietnamese invasion on Christmas Day 1978 ended his reign of terror.

Cambodia's Information Minister leng Mouly said he was checking the reports Pol Pot might have died but like all other senior officials reached by Reuters, including co-Defense Minister Tea Banh and armed forces chief Ke Kim Yan, he said there was confirmation.

leng Mouly said if Pol Pot's death were verified it would be good news for the Cambodian people as it would mean the country was "rid of one of the men who killed millions of people".

The Khmer Rouge took pow-er in Cambodia after defeating a US-backed government in April 1975 and ruled until driven out of Phnom Penh to the Thai border in January 1979 by the invading Vietnamese.

More than a million Cambodians died during Pol Pot's "Killing Fields" regime, executed as enemies of his radical agrarian revolution or as a result of overwork, disease or starvation.

Ly Thuch, head of co-Premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh's cabinet, said they had not received firm evidence of Pol Pot's death.

"I think it would be good news because of what he had done to our country in the past," he said, adding he hoped Khmer Rouge guerrillas would return to the national fold and end their guerrilla war against the government. This was a view shared by

King Norodom Sihanouk who, in a statement released by the palace yesterday, said Pol Pot's death could see the Khmer Rouge degenerate into groups of bandits and outlaws. "This will then be the end of

one of the most terrible tragedies of our history," wrote the king, who said he too was unaware of Pol Pot's death.

Sihanouk was a virtual prisoner of the Khmer Rouge leader in out falsifications and violence after the results Phnom Penh from 1976 to the January 1979 overthrow.

M.

UK, Ireland call on US to guide peace

LONDON (AP) - Former US Senate majority leader George Mitchell will chair Northern Ireland peace talks opening next week, and also will take on the the thorny issue of disarming paramilitary groups, British and Irish offi-

cials announced yesterday. Gen. Jean de Chastelain, who joined Mitchell earlier this year in examining the arms issue, has been asked to chair negotiations on the future of relations between British-ruled Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Finland's former prime minister Harri Holkeri, the third member of Mitcheil's commission, will also have a role.

The appointments were announced just before a joint news conference by Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring and Britain's Northern Ireland Secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew.

A main Protestant unionist party, the Rev. Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party, quickly condemned Mitchell's role.

"What degree of impartiality can unionists expect from a Catholic Irish-American from the same stable as the Kennedys?" said Peter Robinson, party deputy leader. Earlier in Dublin, Irish Prime Minister John Bruton said "every-

thing is now in place for the details to be announced this afternoon for a successful commencement of the talks, as far as the governments can make it so." The big question is whether the

IRA will renew the cease-fire, and permit their allies in Sinn Fein to ioin the talks. Both governments have said Sinn Fein is unwelcome until the cease-fire is restored. "It is manifest that Sinn Fein

have excluded themselves from these negotiations. We greatly regret that," Mayhew said. Spring endorsed Mayhew's call for the IRA to lay down its arms.

"It is up to them - now is the moment of decision. There can be no reason to fudge a decision,"

Spring said.

An election last week selected 10 parties to participate in negotiations. However, Britain and Ireland say that the Sinn Fein party cannot take its seat until the party's allies in the IRA formally restore their cease-fire.

Britain had once demanded that the IRA surrender some weapons before talks, but the IRA refused. Mitchell, President Clinton's point man in Northern Ireland, headed a three-member commission which earlier this year pro-

posed a solution to that impasse. They suggested all parties re-nounce violence, and discussions about weapons disposal could proceed along with negotiations on the province's future.

Irish officials think that a pivotal role for Mitchell would encourage the Sinn Fein-IRA movement to call a new cease-fire. The IRA has said that as things now stood, the prospect of a new truce was "extremely remote."

salmon and lamb, California wine and French champagne under the gaze of two mounted elephants and a dinosaur skeleton. But one of her dance partners

As nervous hosts of The Royal Visit watched, financiers, corporate chairmen and socialites who had paid good money to gawk shuffled past Princess Diana's table and pretended to look elsewhere. But all eyes eventually came back to the princess in the purple dress, whose regal aura seemed to light up the big hall at Chicago's Field Museum of Natural History.

answer," said TV talk show host Phil Donahue by way of explaining his presence at the head table.

Donahue had the first dance with Diana, and could be seen talking animatedly to her as they moved to the strains of Gersh-win's "S'Wonderful." Still, he had little to report about their

said, 'Really? How did you hear

US soldier to be disciplined over Islamic dress FORT STEWART, Georgia (AP) - A Moslem woman soldier is being

court-martialed for refusing to stop wearing traditional Islamic attire The Army said the black scarf, which hides the head and neck,

impairs the safety of Pfc. Darlene Summers during training. Another Moslem woman, a sergeant who asked to wear the scarf, has obeved an order to stop.

Members of the Moslem community protested outside the base holding up signs such as, "Fort Stewart - What about the religious soldiers' families?"

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Givat Shaul, Jerusalem.

Dr. Alvin Rosenfeld

China announces new nuclear testing policy GENEVA (AP) - Under increasing pressure, China said

its insistence that "peaceful nuclear explosions" be permitted under a global treaty to ban testing of atomic But US Ambassador Stephen J. Ledogar said the Chinese were "quite outrageous" in

claiming to present a flexible stand that he said was really hard-line. "And this of course (comes) on the eve of Chinese nuclear tests," Ledogar said, referring to widespread reports that China is about to set off another

yesterday it was willing to drop

nuclear explosion soon. environmenta! organization Greenpeace said the Chinese position was a 'non-compromise."

China, whose position had been considered a major obstacle to concluding the treaty, said it wanted the accord to allow the issue of peaceful nuclear explosions to be reopened in the future.

It also set down conditions

that would make it very

Other countries say the ban should include all nuclear

difficult for the supervising body to conduct the inspections that many disarmament experts regard as essential to making the treaty effective.

"After two years of hard work, we have finally come to see light at the end of the tunnel," said Ambassador Sha Zukang, head of the Chinese delegation to the 38-nation Conference on Disarmament. China, isolated in its

previous demand that it be allowed to conduct nuclear explosions for civilian purposes, has been under increasing pressure to ease its stand so the treaty by can finished by the June 28 deadline.

explosions because any such test could have a military use. Some diplomats said the Chinese wording was a facesaving way to drop its demand, but Greenpeace said insisting on special treatment for the peaceful nuclear explosions at a future treaty review severely undermines the treaty.

Chicago toasts Princess Di

CHICAGO (AP) - She dined on remains a mystery.

"When a princess calls, I always

"I told her I had heard her father was also quite a good danc-er," said Donahue. "And she

e to Netanyahu



dedication of Yoni Square to the memory of brother and son of their sons as Yoni the hero, and Bibi the statesman. (Isaac Harari)

military background.

ionuis detore t

Stranger to understand, howev-

er, were his constant references to

his third wife, Sara, and two sons,

Yair and Avner, particularly since

the whole country recalls the Bibigate affair of 1993. Two

ship elections, he raced to confess

on prime-time television to hav-

ing had an affair (with political

image consultant Ruth Bar) and

implied that David Levy support-

ers were blackmailing him with

videotaped evidence unless he

step down from the race.

It was all "à la Clinton." But

like the US president he survived it and at his US-style victory

speech this week, Sara was at his

side on the platform, not in the

front row. He also talked of his

sons at the event at the Jerusalem

International Convention Center

but, typically, did not mention his

daughter Noa, from his first mar-

riage, who had asked him to keep

Noa Netanyahu was born in

her out of the election campaign.

sts were reviled, or at elined. There was no way family to become part of ablishment. And in 1962, ole family moved back to US, where Benzion nyahu had accepted an acadposition. The move would brive the young Binyamin of chance to be "a Likud prince." ke his political rivals Dan Meridor, Ehud Olmert and Ze'ev

Bibi Netanyahu has told friends e cried when he left Israel and ushed back every year for the ong summer vacation. In a recent nterview in Vanity Fair he said he iked the openmindedness of the IS, but not its "rootlessness" and he "lack of sense of belonging"

ously in an elite IDF unit. Bibi

was drafted in 1967 and fought in the Six Day War. His parents were still in the US when in 1972 Bibi was wounded during the rescue of the hijacked Sabena plane. They were still there when Yoni was killed during the rescue of the Air

France plane six years later.

Bibl's army comrades recall with pride the 1968 night raid on Beirut airport in which Bibi participated in the blowing up of 13 planes on the ground. Erez Altschuller, who served with Bibi, describes him as dedicated to his family and country and a courageous army officer.

not much compared to many of the MKs on his own list but, as Likud activists were quick to point out, much higher than Peres, who did not serve in the IDF.

FACING political opponents that included charismatic former chief-of-staff Ehud Barak, a former commander of Netanyahu's, he wisely did not stress his own

1978 in the US shortly after Bibi married Micky, an Israeli studying for a doctorate at Brandeis University. Bibi had returned to the US to study when he left the IDF after six years of service. He earned his BA and MA at MIT in architecture and business admin-

His first marriage ended when his wife discovered his affair with English-born Fleur Cates. He returned to Israel with Cates, whom he married in 1981 after she had converted. They were divorced in 1988. The reason is not clear. Some say it was infidelity; some, incompatibility; and some imply he thought she might be a liability with the wrong image at a time his career was tak-

In 1991, he met and married Sara, nine years his junior, when she was an airline stewardess and psychology student. Their first son was born shortly afterwards.

During the pre-election television debate, Netanyahu admitted that the Bibigate affair in 1993 had been a mistake which had hurt his family. Among the prominent items in his office at the Knesset, now off-limits to the press, are books, including some of his own works, and a picture of Sara and the two boys. Some of the first post-election coverage was of the Netanyahus picking up their son from kindergarten.

NETANYAHU'S career really got underway in 1982 when Arens was appointed ambassador to Washington and asked him to be his deputy. Facing hostility over the Lebanese War, Netanyahu quickly learned about the power of a good television interview.

The biographical information on Netanyahu in the Knesset's "Who's Who" recalls that he was a member of the first delegation for strategic agreement talks with

In 1984 he made a career leap and was appointed Israel's ambassador to the UN. He was to serve in the position for four years, during which he helped expose the Nazi past of Kurt Waldheim; open the UN archives on Nazi war crimes; repeal the Zionism-isracism ruling; and push for emigration rights for Soviet Jewry. (Natan Sharansky became a very close friend of Netanyahu's after he finally made it to Israel.)

These were the years he appeared so often on television he earned the nicknames "Ted Netanyahu" and "Bibi Koppel" and seemed part of the set at

(Continued on Page 10)

cens is also quick to note stanyahu's academic achieve-

He studied at a top US university [the Massachusetts Institute of Technology]. I don't believe he would have been accepted, graduated and got his master's degree if he wasn't an intelligent person.

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London. The couple returned to Israel in 1948, when Yoni was a baby. Binyamin was born in Tel Aviv in

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among Jews. Although undeniably close, his parents remained in the US while all three sons served simultaneBibi reached the rank of captain,

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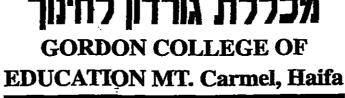
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A Special Offer for readers of THE JEWORALEM POST



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US keeps calm in face of change

ARLY this week, a senior administration official pondered a question on Premier-Elect Binvamin Netanyahu's likely reception by Washington, when he hit on just the right analogy.

He recalled an editorial car-

toon that was published in The Washington Post by its Pulitzer Prize-winner Herblock. The cartoon appeared on November 7, following Richard Nixon's election as president, and it depicted Herblock's own desk containing a sketch of a barber shop with a sign reading, This shop gives to every new President of the United States a free shave."

Like the cartoonist, he said, the Clinton administration is willing to give Netanyahu a "free shave."

The grace period will last, the official said, at least "until he has his government in place and states his positions" on settlements, redeploying from Hebron, dealing with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and Syrian President Hafez Assad, and on whether to close Orient House.

"Then we'll judge," he said. In the week since Netanyahu's election, the administration has studiously avoided fanning the flames of international concern over the Likud leader, instead allowing him abundant breathing room as he takes office.

FROM PRESIDENT Clinton to Secretary of State Warren Christopher on down, the US took the offensive.

They called and wrote Arab leaders urging them not to preiudge Netanyahu or spew gloom-and-doom before he assumes office.

The Arab world's public restraint is evidence of their "rationality" and "maturity," the official said.

In short, says former ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis, Washington is giving Netanyahu a chance to set helping ease

up shop and is fraying Arab nerves, Hillel Kuttler

we are now beginning a "love-

reports

The key word apparently is "reassurance." As the US calmed the Arabs, so too did Netanyahu's conciliatory words in his first public address last Sunday vindicate the American

initiatīve. Said a second administration official: "Our desire is to pursue the peace process, and he's made it clear in everything he's said that he's committed to the peace process.

"He's clearly sent conciliatory signals to the outside and inside. The fact that he's called [Jordan's King Hussein and Egyptian] President Mubarak, established contact with [the PLO's] Abu Mazen, indicates he's quite serious about follow-

It's helpful because it reinforces what we're saying to the Arabs, that their anxiety at this time is exaggerated and misplaced

"Bibi said he wanted to make peace, he accepted Oslo," the second official said. "He raised questions, but he didn't run against peace. Obviously, [the election] was not a referendum

LÈWIS, WHO served in Tel

Aviv when the Likud first to power in 1977, said, "This exactly what [then-premis Menachem] Begin did. He trie to reassure everyone he wasn't warmonger."

The administration is placing lot of weight on Netanyahu' upcoming visit to Washington which should occur soon after he takes office this month. The US peace team wants to hear directly from Netanyahu his strategy for proceeding in peace talks with the Palestinians and Syria, and in Israel's evolving relations with other Middle East countries.

They are confident that despite campaign rhetoric, Netanyahu appreciates the gains Israel has made in the five years since he served as the government's spokesman at the dawn of the Madrid process,

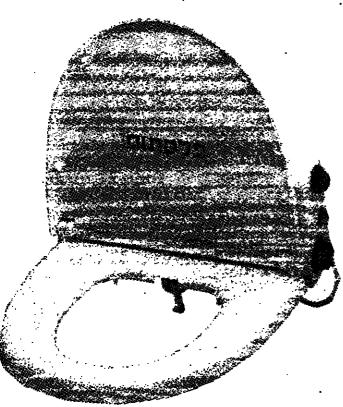
"There are a lot of realities that are inherited and a lot of realities he'll want to nurture, the second official said, "whether the peace treaties or the two economic summits, the beginning of diplomatic relations with Morocco, Tunisia, Oman and Qatar. There's a whole array of things he's inher-

Even though they dealt with Netanyahu when he served as deputy foreign minister, he enters the Prime Minister's Office as something of an unknown leader, the officials

IN THE past year, while leading the opposition, Netanyahu met here with National Security Adviser Anthony Lake; with Vice President Albert Gore during his visit to Israel in January; and with President Clinton following Yitzhak Rabin's funeral last November and two months ago after the Sharm e-Sheikh summit. Clinton and Netanyahu also met before the former took office in 1993.

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(Continued from Page 9)

His greatest appearance, however, was during the Gulf war when he donned a gas mask and continued an interview in the middle of a Scud missile attack.

His television appeal is easy to understand. There is truth to the claims he talks in sound bites and he is equally comfortable talking in either Hebrew or English. (He also knows French.)

By 1986 his success was hard to ignore and political commentator Hanan Crystal predicted Bibi would be pitted against Ehud Barak in 1996. He entered the Knesset in 1988 and served as deputy foreign minister under Arens. He later moved to a similar position in the prime minister's office after then-foreign minister David Levy grew jealous of his popularity during the Madrid Peace Conference in 1991.

HIS SUCCESS IN taking over the Likud leadership in 1993 was all the more remarkable given that he was running against Levy and Ze'ev Begin.

Morti Morell, who has known Netanyahu 16 years and directed his electoral advertising campaign, says Bibi's conquest of the Likud leadership was typical.
"He's made out of different

material [from] other Israeli politicians. From the beginning he didn't run along the regular route but overtook everyone on the ladder to reach the top," Morell says. "He knows exactly what he wants and he goes straight there."

GUIDE

Morell says Netanyahu's image stems from his lack of press support and the fact he doesn't like giving interviews.

"Everyone forgets that until he took over the Likud he was the media's darling," Morell notes. "But from that point, the Left saw what they were dealing with and marked him and the press began to attack. There were plenty from both the Left and within the Likud who were willing to give the media material to work with and the result was a character assassination."

Despite the bad press, Netanyahu has been credited with pulling the party out of debt after electoral defeat in 1992; giving it a constitution; and somehow uniting it again.

His success seems to come down to his peculiar singlemind-. edness. Shortly after gaining lead-Netanyahu seemed ership, doomed to remain a wannabe when the Oslo accords were

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killed Rabin seemed to blast away any chance of Netanyahu leaving the opposition. And when Leah Rabin said she found it easier to shake Yasser Arafat's hand than Netanyahu's, his popularity reached such a low that many were scared to admit supporting him. His comeback can be attributed to many factors: the wave of terror drove many to vote Netanyahu as a vote against Peres and Oslo: the Likud's campaign, aimed at

signed and Yitzhak Rabin became adored by the Western world. Just

as Netanyahu started fighting

back, the assassin's bullets that

everyday people and stressing a safe peace and a undivided Jerusalem, also played a role. But perhaps most of all it was Netanyahu's style of focusing on the target and not being distracted by the need to respond to attacks on him. His motto could be "Straight from A to Bibi." He did not get tricked into answering Labor's slogan "Bibi isn't suitable." He stayed serious and avoided providing more ammunition for the "Bibi is a lightweight" campaign. His seriousness seems an insep-

arable part of him now. He has grown physically heavier as he became more of a political heavyweight. The people who say he won because he looks good on television are referring to an earlier model. He is clearly aware of the responsibility he has taken on. Although he is quick-witted and

has sharp repartee and one-liners, he seems wary of really letting himself go and having a good laugh at either himself or others. He does have a sense of humor but he shows restraint," Arens

says. "But there's nothing wrong with that And just wait. You'll see him laugh."

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date now becomes the leader

PM-elect Binyamin Netanyahu will have to navigate between his preferred strategy and regional constraints, David Makovsky writes

n such issues as Hebron and brient House. Already, there are oices in the Likud hinting that ompromises can be made on nese sticky issues, for instance n early partial redeployment in lebron or, in the case of Orient Jouse, lowering the site's politial profile (instead of closing it own) by urging foreign minis-

The broader issue is maintainng a genuine relationship with the PA, and already Netanyahu has authorized Gold to notify top PA official Mahmoud Abbas about a mechanism for dialogue. Each side can bring a laundry list of items of non-adherence to Oslo. In the end, it will have to boil down to three key issues: terror, economics, and land.

 Terror. During the election campaign, Netanyahu said he did not want to "subcontract" Israeli security to the PA. But, if the PA does not maintain what GSS chief Ami Ayalon indicates is its excellent current efforts against Hamas, Netanyahu could be faced with pressure from within to stage retaliatory raids against Hamas. This could lead to what hardly anybody wants: Israel's reoccupation of Gaza. Therefore Netanyahu and Arafat are in the same boat, and it is just a matter of time before the two meet to discuss how Hamas threatens their mutual interests including Arafat's own regime.

 Economics. Netanyahu reiterated in the election campaign the need for Israel to bolster its freemarket economy. Economic freeis something that Palestinians could find refreshing after being stifled by Israeli economic restrictions. A salutary economic program could bolster the prospects of jobs inside the territories, which would make the Palestinians less reliant on jobs inside Israel, and even lower security risks for Israelis.

· Land. "Reciprocity" is a watchword of the new Netanyahu government. Both sides can carve out zones of influence in the territories with an eye on a final deal. The Palestinians want to know that even before the final-status deadline of May 1999, there will be three miniredeployments - as scheduled in the Oslo 2 accords - over the next 18 months. The PA controls the urban areas, which form 3 percent of the territories. The Palestinians want to know that these Zone A areas can be expanded.

While opposing statehood for the Palestinians, Netanyahu differs from Sharon in that he does not oppose territorial contiguity for the Palestinians, believing that neither Israelis nor Palestinians can force the other into "tiny islands." Candidate Netanyahu made it clear that the concept of Zone B areas of shared authority is too messy and should remain on the shelf until a

final-status arrangement. The main quid pro quo Netanyahu wants from the PA will not be explicit, but rather a compromise achieved by a wink and a nod: settlement expansion in designated areas, somewhat along the lines publicly suggested by Rabin in the Oslo 2 Knesset debate last year, where settlements already exist and in specific blocs which it is clear that Israel will keep in any final

EGYPT One of the key questions facing

Netanyahu will be whether Egypt is a favorable or unfavorable force in the region. No Arab country has felt as threatened by Israeli regional gains since the Oslo accords. Egypt's leadership feels threatened by an Israel that is militarily, technologically, and economically stronger than its neighbors.

The school of thought most associated with Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Mousa is: Return Israel to its "natural proportions" and mount international pressure to deprive it of its reputed nuclear arsenal. While this has not been successful, one cannot preclude the possibility that

Egypt will join Syria - now disappointed that its territorial demands won't be met by Netanyahu - in creating a broader regional front to isolate Israel, Netanyahu may do a couple of things to stave off this prospect. First, he could seek to placate

Egypt's eternal quest for a regional role by making gestures that would reinforce Egyptian leadership, as President Bill Clinton did by inviting President Hosni Mubarak to host the antiterrorism conference in Sharm e-Sheikh. The fact that Mubarak invited Netanyahu to Cairo (in contrast to the way he shunned his Likud predecessor Yitzhak Shamir) demonstrates that Cairo realizes that the region has changed a lot since Oslo.

Second, Netanyahu may urge the US to make it clear to Cairo that any regional mischief could have deleterious effects on the US's \$2.1 billion in annual aid to Egypt. Congress wants to take another chunk out of foreign aid this year, and aid to Israel and Egypt sticks out like a sore thumb. Egypt relies on the clout of the pro-Israel lobby to oppose cuts, and Netanyahu can make it clear that the future of that aid depends upon whether Egypt is a peacemaker or a troublemaker.

SYRIA This area could be the biggest source of trouble for Netanyahu, who will indicate to President Assad that Israel will not swap the Golan for a peace treaty.

US officials are dubious that Assad will go for Netanyahu's partial agreement notions such as deals on water and getting off the State Department Terrorism List. Assad does not believe his

options are over. Apart from having Hizbullah heat up southern Lebanon, and moving closer to Iran, there are signs that Assad believes this weekend's expected meeting with Mubarak and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd will be the key in bringing the other two regional players together to isolate Israel politically once it becomes clear that talks over the Golan are essentially over. The last time those three met in early 1995, Israel's normalization drive with Gulf and North African countries quickly stalled.

The US is trying to forestall any precipitous action by Damascus, just as it urged all Arabs to suspend judgment on the Israeli election. Secretary of State Warren Christopher sought to convey a similar message in a phone conversation with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara and in a meeting with Saudi ambassador Bandar ibn Sultan that he hopes will be forwarded by Crown Prince Abdullah and other top Saudis to Syria: Give Netanyahu a chance before reaching any far-reaching conclusions.

Netanyahu realizes he'll need strong US backing to implement his peace policies. which will sometimes be unpopular among Arabs

Yet Netanyahu seems to have a message of his own which he is likely to discuss with Clinton in the US at the end of this month. In Netanyahu's words, the US needs not just a carrot approach in dealing with Damascus but also a stick approach. In a recent interview with The Jerusalem Post, Netanyahu spoke of what aides call a "triple containment" approach, alluding to the current US policy of "dual containment." Netanyahu said, "Just as there are no American technology transfers, oil sales [or] trade with Iran and Iraq, Syria should be warned that it would be subject to these same sanctions."

THE UNITED STATES Netanyahu realizes that, even more than Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres, who were able to keep the peace process going largely by demonstrating flexibility at the negotiating table, he will need strong US backing if he is going to be able to implement his peace policies, which will sometimes be less than popular with the Arabs.

"The US is the key to everything," a Netanyahu aide said. But it might not be easy to maintain the four-year honeymoon with the US. The US has invested enormous efforts, including some 20-odd trips by Christopher to the region in the past 3 1/2 years in a bid to reach a breakthrough on the Syrian track. Therefore Netanyahu must make the case that Israel should not be blamed for any failure. Otherwise Syria could make inroads in driving a wedge between Israel and its patron.

While Netanyahu believes he has a relatively free ride until November as Clinton won't want to bicker while he campaigns as a proven Middle East peacemaker, a second-term Clinton who does not need to face reelection could be a different story, especially if he thinks that Netanyahu is unraveling the peace that he and Rabin built.

Netanyahu will also have to overcome some personal animosity, but this should be possible. In 1990, then-secretary of state James Baker banned deputy foreign minister Netanyahu from the State Department for charging that US policy was "built upon a foundation of distortion and lies." Baker's top aide then was Dennis Ross, and he remains the head of US peace efforts today.

It is widely believed that Baker's aides accused Netanyahu of whispering to Shamir that they were "self-hating Jews," yet this was never proven and the aides and Netanyahu made their own peace.

The same reconciliation of differences is likely to occur now despite the annoyance that Netanyahu feels about having his repeated requests over the last four years for a White House meeting with Clinton blocked. Both sides are mature enough to realize they need to keep their eyes on the big picture and focus on the regional problems ahead, and not the personal pique of the past.

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Monday, June 10, 1996

MEP XVIII Women's Division/ATS Macromolecular Structure 11:00 a.m. Research Laboratory at the Faculty of Chemistry, Seminar Room Aharon Rubinstein Bulkling Materials Laboratory for Students

12:00 110011 at the National Building Research institute

Muriel and David Jacknow Awards and Salomon Simon Mani Awards 1:00 p.m. for Excellence in Teaching Hershel Rich Innovation Prizes Henry Taub Prizes

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11:00 a.m. at the Ulimann Building, 4th floor Libby and Lewis M. Weston Laboratory for Spectroscopy of 11:45 a.m.

Optoelectronic Materials at the Rosen Solid State Building Ing. Samuel and Ducy Zabner Room

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Science at the Fischbach Building: Dr. Craig Gotsman: "The Internet - Web Site Story" Dr. Shei Ben David: "Animals, Men and Machines: How Do They Learn?" Dr. Gerson Elber: "The Grand Tour of the Intelligent Systems Lab" Conferment Ceremony of Honorary Doctorate

in the Churchill Auditorium 8:30 p.m.

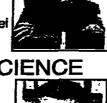
Wednesday, June 12, 1996 Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Chair in Science, Engineering and Management of Water Resources 12:00 noon

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The Shas formula: Insight and

The party's real blessings are a knack for organization and constant contact with voters. **Herb Keinon** reports

ILL out the forms, turn them in to us and the blessings will, with God's help, come to you soon," the master of ceremonies bellowed at a Shas political rally in Ma'aleh Adumim a week before the elec-

The rally was uniquely Shas: equal parts of politics and religious

"Whoever brings a chair on wheels for Rabbi Kaduri will end up having people coming to his home just to sit on the chair, just to touch the chair," the MC said, asking someone in the crowd to supply a chair for the elderly kabbalist who made an appearance at the rally. "You will receive blessings because of the chair."

The forms handed out featured a picture of Kaduri, and included space to put in wishes for blessings for family and friends. "The forms," the MC told the crowd,

"will be taken to Rabbi Kaduri." The blue-and-white forms were hastily snatched up by the crowd of some 250 people - a small crowd by Shas standards - that, alongside a smattering of men in black kippot and women in head coverings, included males sporting ponytails and earrings, and women in closefitting slacks.

Everyone filled in the forms, with some people handing in two, three and even four. The blessings seemed to flow immediately, at least for Shas, which defied the polls and pundits and increased its Knesset strength by four seats to

The key to the success, said Nissim Dahan, one of Shas's new Knesset members, is Shas leader Aryeh Deri's uncanny understanding of his constituency. He understands the deep respect his constituency has for tradition, even if they themselves are not Torah observant, and for the words and blessings of the rabbis. Deri has parlayed this understanding into one success after another at the

"A MAJOR ingredient of the suc-

think." Naturally, he said, the amulets were Deri's brainchild.

The amulets are medallions the size of a half-shekel piece bearing Kaduri's likeness and Hebrew letters printed on it. The party handed out tens of thousands of them during the campaign, before the Central Elections Committee made them stop, saying it was an illicit

way of gaining votes.

Some people believe that the amulets, which include the holy names of angels, have the power to bring them luck, or fend off evil. Others say they are the Jewish answer to the rabbit's foot.

Ironically it was Shas's detractors, from the National Religious Party to Meretz, who attributed magical powers to the amulets after the elections, saying that most of Shas's new support came from people who voted for the party only because they received the medallion and were afraid to vote against Shas, lest they incur the evil eye. "A threat to democracy," a Meretz spokesman yelled, "Pandering to superstitions," an NRP official

But the reality, Dahan insisted, is different. "Our public is not stupid, they do not believe in magic and superstitions," he said. "Sure, there are people on the fringes who may have voted for us because of the amulets, but they did not provide us with four seats."

Rather, he said, the amulet provided Shas with a way to pinpoint its potential voters, and these potential voters could then be heavily canvassed by Shas activists in the field. Kabbala meets direct-

mail marketing.

The brilliance of the amulet campaign was the way in which they were distributed. Shas activists did not - like the other parties - stand at busy street corners and distribute election paraphernalia to anonymous hands stretched out from passing cars. Rather, those who wanted an amulet had to fill out a form that included their address and phone number, and then received the amulets in the mail. The addresses were entered into a computer, giving Shas an excellent



According to anthropologist Shimon Deshen, Shas's religious platform appeals to tens of thous Torah observant themselves, 'have a deep respect, a fear, for rabbis.'

could then approach either face-toface or with a phone call.

Anyone who showed an interest in the annulet was automatically buttonholed as a prospective Shas voter. "We then went to the people who received the amulet and explained why it was important to vote Shas," said Dahan, who headed the party's campaign in the center of the country. "Our words fell on receptive ears."

DAHAN'S ARGUMENT that the party did not gain its four seats because people felt obliged to vote Shas after receiving the amulet was who studies the religious parties.

"My feeling is that the amulets did not play that important a role," he said, but that what was more important was the ability of the vot-ers to split their votes. This way they could cast one vote for Netanyahu and give expression to their right-wing sentiments, and cast a vote for Shas and express their ethnic identity."

Deshen said that Shas's religious platform appeals to tens of thousands of people who, although not Torah observant themselves, "have a deep respect, a fear, for rabbis. These are people for whom there is even if they do no perform all the

Dahan took it further. "These are people for whom a respect for rabbinic authority is sucked in with their mother's milk as a child. These are people who care what the rabbis say, even though they do not

yet listen to all their directives." This respect for the rabbis explains why Shas went to great pains every evening during th campaign to fly Kaduri and Rabb Ovadia Yosef, the party's founded and spiritual mentor, from or campaign rally to the next. The appeared in front of enthralle throngs everywhere from Kiryat

supported by Tel Aviv University deep belief in God, in heaven, and throngs everywhere from Kiryat strength in Or Yehuda, going from anthropologist Shimon Deshen, as deep respect for Jewish beritage. Shimon to Eilat, and they appeared 1,600 to 3,600 votes. "And this,"

him, and may the whose o an attempt to stick it to him and Shas for their success."

The political clout of a 106-year-old mystic

had never heard of Rabbi mystic living in Jerusalem's Bukharan Quarter. Now, there are many who credit him with having decided the elecfег tion. ΜŁ

> mekubal, a kabbalist or mystic, came into the limelight during the

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Rabbi Yitzhak Kaduri's sudden prominence may be indicative of a growing interest in Kabbala

election campaign when Shas activists began distributing amulets in the form of printed cards and

Kaduri, 106, described as a medallions bearing his likeness in

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Haim Shapiro writes

relief on one side. Former Sephardi chief rabbi Mordechai Eliahu denounced the medallions as idolatrous and the Central Elections Committee ruled that the distribution of both must stop. In their place, Shas distributed forms on which one could write a petition to the aged mystic.

However, Kaduri really came to the fore when, on the day before the elections, he received prime minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu and blessed the Likud leader, calling him the next prime minister of Israel. In an election as close as this one, it is quite possible that it was this one act which swung the balance for Netanyahu.

Amnon Levy, author of Haharedim, describes Kaduri as the country's senior practical kabbalist. His petitioners, Levy says, sometimes have to wait weeks, or even months, to see him. Those who want to shorten the process wait for him after morning services at his synagogue in the Bukharan

Kaduri wears a black gown and a red hat, which Levy likens to a fez, over which is a long scarf. Typically, petitioners will leave a request with a sum of money with the sage's assistant, who tells them to come in a few days for an answer. Those who are then allowed to see Kaduri come with

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es. He is said to be particularly efficacious in determining whether a couple is well-matched.

According to Prof. Moshe Halamish of Bar-Ilan University's philosophy department, Kaduri's followers include Ashkenazim as well as Sephardim, though the tendency to use amulets has been more a part of Sephardi than Ashkenazi culture. Halamish views Kaduri as part of the centuries-old tradition of kabbalists, especially in Jerusalem, although there are others like him in Bnei Brak and elsewhere in Israel.

During the past year, there were press reports mentioning Kaduri's name in connection with a reported pulsa dinura ceremony, in which Prime Minister Shimon Peres was said to have been cursed in a ritual conducted with black candles. Members of Kaduri's family hotly denied that he had anything to do

with any such event.
For Halamish, practical Kabbala can be described as a form of magic, in which the practitioner in some way acquires the power to determine the course of events. An amulet, he says, is based upon the magic of the written word.

"În Judaism, we pray, but we don't expect our prayers to influence the course of events," Halamish says. On the other hand, he points out,

the use of amtilets dates back at least to the time of the Mishna, which in tractate Shabbat indicates that an amulet writer is to be regarded as an expert in his craft only if his amulets have succeeded in healing at least three times. Such a person, the Mishna says, is even permitted to write an annulet on Shabbat. Halamish adds that those who reject amulets suggest that the Mishna is trying to restrict their use by setting very high standards, while those who accept amulets point to the passage as confirming their validity.

For the practical writer of amulets, Halamish says, it is not enough to know what to write on the amulet. There is also a specific way in which it is to be written or even drawn and often a specific time. Often the writer will immerse himself in a ritual bath before beginning his task.

THOUGH AMULETS are part of a long-held tradition, the popularity of Kabbala and Kaduri's prominence are quite recent phenomena. In past centuries, Halamish says, there was a tendency to keep the study of Kabbala secret, both because of the fear of the power which it might unleash, and due to the erotic language used in relation



Kabbalist Yitzhak Kaduri casts his ballot in 1992. The day before the 1996 elections, he blessed Binyamin Netanyahu.

to the divinity. However, he adds, despite attempts to restrict such studies to a selected few, the number of students grew following the expulsion from Spain. With the introduction of printing, in particular, books which had been restricted to only a few now came into the hands of many. Jews were also influenced, he says, by the fact that many Christian scholars in the Renaissance translated and studied Jewish mystical works and attempted to relate them to Christian theology.

Because of the perceived dangers, there were bans restricting the study, including one issued by Rabbi Moshe Isseries (the Rema) in the 16th century and a similar ban issued in Lvov in 1756. They stipulated that anyone studying such subjects must be married and at least 40 years old and that such studies must not be undertaken alone, but with a teacher. The restrictions remained especially severe for those who studied manuscripts, he says.

Even today, there are kabbalists who prefer anonymity, he says, but he adds that the tendency for secrecy is more typical among Ashkenazim Sephardim and that these days Kabbala has become a popular subject of study. This, he says, is partly due to a belief that in the period of redemption, both the "great and small" will study the Zohar, the central work in the study of the Kabbala. This prompts both those who believe that we are already entering into the period of redemption and those who believe that by their acts they can hasten this time,

There is, of course, no formal way one becomes a kabbalist. There is no set course of study and there are no examinations. One studies with others and eventually achieves prominence among one's

The ultimate deciding factor is public acceptance, Halamish notes, whether rabbinical authorities approve or not. Eliahu was far from the first to try to stop the practice with little effect.

In the Middle Ages too, the rab-bis tried unsuccessfully to stop such practices. "Eliahn can shout all he wants. It

won't help," Halamish says.

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COLUMNS

Mobilizing the media in the elections

DAVID BAR-ILLAN

F clean elections are not an endangered species, it is only because no such animal has ever existed. What is true is that negative campaigning – the sys-tematic besinitching of political rivals' personalities – is now more prevalent than ever. Some believe the reason is that the rising costs of campaigning forces candidates "to take a short cut to victory through the sewer," as one commentator has put it. It may also be that the public, used to steamy soap operas, finds dirt about the candidates' personal lives far more riveting than taxes and terrorism. And while it may be difficult to determine to what extent such mnd-slinging works, the fact is that in Israel it is no longer restricted to advertising; it has contaminated the news sec-tions of some of the most respectable media outlets.

The most egregious example of this contamination was provided by Israel's only serious Hebrew newspaper, Ha'aretz While the tabloids toyed with such minutiae
as Binyamin Netanyahu's
attempt to shorten his name when he was a 23-year-old student in Boston (Ma'ariv), and his civil marriage to his second wife which preceded a Jewish wedding ceremony (Yediot Aharonot), Ha'aretz waited until election day to address the really important issue of the most momentous campaign in recent

In what must be a first in the history of serious journalism, the paper featured a front-page story on election day by its "get Bibi" reporter Ehud Ashri, headlined "A Jerusalem citizen claims that he heard Netanyahu in the past expressing a clear wish to settle in the United States." In addition to this "news" story, the paper's feature section carried a lengthy. six-column, top-of-the page report, accompanied by a large photo of Netanyahu and his wife campaigning, in which the same charge was repeated under an even more tantalizing headline: He mocked all values of love of motherland."

TO PUBLISH such a story on election day, when no real rebuttal is possible (the paper did publish a general denial by

Netanyahu's spokesman at the story's conclusion), is despicable. But even on any other day of the year, to print a charge of this kind, which relies solely on the testimony of an anonymous source, is

yellow journalism at its worst. The source, says the paper, is a respectable Jerusalemite who did not want to divulge his identity for fear of hurting others involved who are very dear to him." And although Netanyahu's candidacy for the premiership had been known for more than three years, it was only two days before election day that this dutiful citizen felt he simply had to spill the beans about the man who would be prime minister.

"Had it not been related to a candidate for premier, I would never have thought of bringing it to public attention.... It is about a man who with talent and coming manages to fool the public and the press. It hurts me to witness the press harnessed for the purpose of blurring the man and his past. I am not only frightened by the thought that Netznyahu will be premier but personally insulfed by such a possibility...."

It is difficult to imagine that such an obvious last-minute plant, such a primitive dirty trick, would find its way into a respectable newspaper. But the anonymous harangue also provides a moment of hilarity. To accuse the press of cooperating with Netanyahu must be the best joke of the campaign. As Israel's Media Watch has pointed out, the media were not only outrageously biased against Netanyahu in their news reporting, the electronic media actually broke the law by broadcasting thinly veiled Labor campaign propaganda on news programs.

Describing the Likud song, Channel 2 reporter Gadi Sukenik said, "This is what the Likud propagandists intend to brainwash us; with in the coming weeks." Needless to say, he referred to the Labor's jingle with utter respect. Similarly, on the Every Evening program on Channel 1, Yair Nitzani and Merav Michaeli derided the Likud broadcasts as: catering to idiots. On the same channel, the Baba Banich was interviewed for the sole purpose of having him spout pro-Peres

propaganda. On Channel I again, the popular *Popolitica* afforded the same Baruch an interview for the same purpose.

Interviewer Dan Shilon had a participant in Labor's campaign commercials give her reasons for opposing Netanyahu. Dalia Ya'iri's radio program interviewed only bereaved families who objected to the use of pictures of the suicide bombings in campaign commercials, refusing to give equal time to families which favored such use. The "political corner" on the nightly news program on Channel 2 was unabashedly — and illegally — a propaganda corner. (The law forbids campaign propaganda for 60 days before the election and orders that time be given for any orders that time be given for the converge of different parts of the converge of the convergence of the conver "appropriate coverage of different viewpoints and opinions.")

The one-sidedness of the broadcasts was such that 20 prominent academics of both left and right published a large adver-tisement calling for farmess in reporting election news. That political doves and traditional Labor supporters signed the adshook up producers of four programs – Popolitica, No-Man's-Land, Plebiscite and a news program on the army radio station who invited two of the signatories to elaborate on their complaints on the air. All four appearances were canceled at the last

ON THE day following the election, when it became clear that Labor had lost, the popular Razi Barka'i program played "Gray is the day, very gray." The Kobi Meidan-Avry Gilad program featured the songs "The end of the world" and "We are heading for a

On election day, the radio collaborated in propagating a fabricated report that Peres's life was being threatened by "Jewish extremists." The bulletin was repeated every half hour throughout the day. As Yediot Aharonot reported, it recalled the "heart-attack plan" devised by Peres's public-relations crew in 1981. They planned to hospitalize him with a "mild heart attack" just before the election if the polls showed a dangerous decline in his popularity, in the



Herblock's view in 'The Washington Post.'

hope that it would bring him sympathy votes. In 1981, Peres refused to collaborate in this hoax. Last week the state radio, throwing journalistic ethics to the wind, played the dirty trick for him. Not surprisingly, Palestinian radio helped, too. When it became clear during election day that Israeli Arabs

were staying home in droves, Radio Palestine (whose wavelength is provided by the Israeli government) began to urge them to go the polls. The call was heeded promptly and massively. But perhaps the media's great-

est offense had to do with a sensational news story which was spiked because it could have hurt the Labor Party. On Shavuot eve, May 23, six days before the election, radio correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem announced that the General Security Service had granted a special permit to two Hamas leaders to travel from Gaza to confer with Hamas

leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin in an Israeli prison.

The purpose of the visit was to persuade Yassin to order the Hamas military wing not to attack Israelis until the elections were over. This belied Labor's claim, repeated with avid persistence for more than a year, that the purpose of Hamas's terrorist activities was to topple Labor and help Likud. The story, which proved that Hamas was just as nterested in Labor's victory as Yasser Arafat was, was killed after the second broadcast. Television never reported it at

Nor did the Ben-Menahem report reach the US and Europe. where the fashionable comment after the election was that the unholy alliance between Islamic terrorists and the Israeli right wing had won the election. A typical example of the obscene distortion is the Herblock cartoon in The Washington Post.

A new beginning – time for hope

CAPITAL TALK

TEDDY KOLLEK with AMOS KOLLEK

VERY newly elected prime minister deserves the goodwill of the people, those who voted for him and those who did not. He is entitled to their help and support, particularly in difficult times when crucial decisions must be taken. This certainly applies to Binyamin Netanyahu, who is the legitimate choice of the people.

The two candidates' personalities andpolicies had been presented for months, if not years, to the people on a daily basis and the voters have made their decision. In today's world, a candidate has to be palatable, personable and charming. I am hoping that, like many new leaders in the course of history who were an unknown quantity at the time of taking office, Mr. Netanyahu will turn out to be a pleasant surprise.

Some rise to the occasion and grow considerably in their political vision once they shoulder the responsibility of leading a nation. Being a prime minister is a far cry from from being an MK on the opposition benches. It is a hard and challenging task, particularly at a time like this when the peace process is at stake, and when a new political structure giving substantially more weight to the smaller parties might make it even harder to govern and maintain a firm policy than it used to be.

The new prime minister will have to make hard choices from the start. The extent to which he will be able to resist both extremism and paralyzing compromises, and be guided by principles and foresight, will dictate the course of the year to

Therefore I want to take this opportunity to wish Mr. Netanyahu success, and to express the hope that he will lead wisely and well. A new beginning is not a time for mourning but a time for hope. One of the most positive aspects of democracy is that it brings on a change quite frequently, and with it new people and new prospects. That is a good thing in principle, even if a particular election turns out differently. than you had anticipated. Nevertheless, I cannot help

feeling a deep regret, which I am sure is shared by the new

prime minister, that the recent change in regime may have been facilitated to some extent by a despicable assassin, who has in that sense attained his goal and interfered not only with human life but with democracy and history.

And I can certainly understand Leah Rabin's emotiona! reaction to the outcome of the election, but I hope she will remain here where she belongs and will continue to make an important contribution and set a tremendous example of courage and dignity as she has done so

OUR NATION has gone through tumultuous bumps on fate's rollercoaster in the past seven months. The first order of the day is to bring back a sense of stability and normalcy; to reassure people here and abroad that we are moving forwards and not backwards regarding the peace process.

At the same time the new prime minister should make it a priority to lower the tensions that have been mounting among the different segments of the population in the past year; to unite the people, and to reassure secular Israelis that he will not sell out to the haredim.

I want to say also a few words to my friend Shimon Peres. A leader's stature in history is not measured by his electability. Winston Churchill was voted out of office right after the mosspectacular display of courageous and triumphant leadership this century.

Shimon Peres has been the architect of so many of the country's greatest achieve ments, building the militar-industry, the nuclear plant, rela tions with Third World coun tries and the peace process. It i almost impossible for the imag ination to grasp the scope of hi vision and his accomplishments Given another four years he may have been able to concludthe process with the Palestinian and achieve a breakthrough wit. Syria.

But our democracy has dictat ed otherwise. This doesn' detract from the nation or from the man it chose to replace hin Let us just hope that his succes sor will be worthy and equal t

by DOSH

Unintended consequences

VIEW FROM NOV

ANY explanations have been advanced for Shimon Peres's debacle. Some Laborites and other leftists, no doubt intending to embarrass the Netanyahu camp, blame the 31,000-odd Arabs and Druse who either voted for Netanyahu or cast blank ballots. That is approximately the number of votes by which Netanyahu defeated Peres.

Those who thus credit "the Arab vote" with Netanyahu's victory overlook the possibility that some of those voters might sincerely prefer Netanyahu.
Those voters might be hoping that this time a government led by a Jabotinskyite would take at least some preliminary steps towards ending the discrimination against Arab, Druse and other non-Jewish loyal citizens of the Jewish state. I refer to "The Jordan Has Two Banks," the hymn composed by Ze'ev Jabotinsky, founder of the Revisionist movement out of which the Likud Party sprang. The hymn envisions a sovereign Jewish Eretz Yisrael where Jews, Arabs, Moslems and Christians will all equally enjoy material plenty and spiritual happiness, because my flag, a flag of purity and fairness, will render pure both banks of my Jordan."

On the other hand, non-lewish citizens who cast blank ballots apparently wanted Peres no more than they want Netanyahu, especially after Operation Grapes of Wrath. They may even think that a government led by Netanyahu will be more vulnerable to international pressure and more likely to lean over backwards with con-

cessions to the PLO and Syria. Then there are Jewish leftwingers and liberals who are unable to credit integrity and intelligence to fellow Jews who disagree with them. This time, they also ignore the fact that more than 55 percent of the Jewish electorate voted for Netanyahu, a margin that in US politics is considered a landslide victory. And they go on to attribute Netznyahu's victory to fear - on which they accuse Netanyahu's campaign of playing cynically - and superstition (referring to Shas's gift of blessed talismans to those promising their vote).

Be all that as it may, I don't know why none of those pundits has seen fit to blame the Peres/Labor debacle on the outgoing government's policies, especially on the high-handed and foul-mouthed manner in which those who headed the government sought to impose its policies.

Both Yitzhak Rabin's and Shimon Peres's unfortunate conduct in this respect is a matter of record. As for Peres - he seemed unable to break the habit virtually right up to Election Day.

During a visit to a Labor Party branch two days earlier, Peres was introduced to a blond young man who told him he had transferred his loyalty from the Likud to Labor.

How does Peres, the Polishborn, Ashkenazi, Labor Party patrician greet this new devotee? He says: "It isn't every day you see a blond Likudnik." (Ha'aretz, May 29).

What shade of hair and complexion are supposed to charac-terize Likudniks as distinct from Laborites, Mr. Peres?

LIKE his late predecessor, Peres doesn't like critics, especially if they criticize him in Americanaccented Hebrew. Peres, a pillar of the Israeli and international social-democratic movements, apparently thinks, like many other Israeli left-wing patricians, that Likudniks ought to conform to a dark-haired, tan-complexioned stereotype. Some of those patricians even indicated in recent weeks that they expect Likudniks to be no more than

semi-literate. Another supercilious notion of many of our social democrats and other so-called liberals is that Orthodox Jews should "know their place" - i.e. concern themselves solely with their own private observance of ritual matters with their place in the World-to-Come, and leave all mundane matters to secular men-of-the-

world. This is the plain meaning of a remark Peres made shortly before election day. A reporter asked him whether he was disappointed with the Orthodox parties, who were leaning heavily

towards Binyamin Netanyahu despite all the bounties Peres imagined he and his Labor col-leagues had lavished on them and had now further promised them. Peres replied: "They're the ones who should be disappointed. They were parties who concerned themselves with religious matters. Now they've turned into parties concerning themselves with political matters... What characterizes this political campaign is the shift of the Orthodox camp from the world of religion into a a political camp." (Ha'aretz, May 28 and 29.)

Meanwhile one of those patrician's hatchet men, outgoing Construction and Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, announced he was punishing the Orthodox Jews for supporting Netanyahu by halting housing construction for the growing haredi community.

Actually, the haredim - and all the rest of us - may turn out to owe a great debt of gratitude to the outgoing regime and to the Labor and Meretz yeomen who staffed it, shaped and implemented its Palestinic ideology, and especially, created its lan-guage and style. For that ideology, and especially that language and style, have virtually driven the haredim into the Zionist

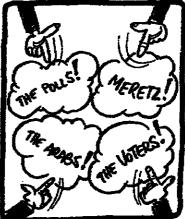
Consequently, for the first time spokesmen of the main Orthodox parties, Shas and the National Religious Party, are speaking not merely in terms of their "parochial" concerns, but of producing candidates for the posts of finance minister, foreign minister, and, yes, even prime minister.

The transformation of these and certain other narrow-interest parties into parties concerning themselves with all matters of national concern will in the long run be a boon to our political life and our national life in general. Eventually, we would see party mergers leading to the creation of at most three large political blocs, ending the election and coalition free-for-all that still afflict us, and we would have the Rabin/Peres government and Labor's 1996 election-campaign team to thank for that unintended consequence.

BRULIK









Responsibility to act ing: 'Send out men for yourself that they may spy out the land of Canaan, which I give to the children of Israel. Of every tribe of their father shall you send a man, every one a ruler among them." (Numbers 13:1-

OW should we under-stand the sin of the spies in this week's portion of Shlah? After all, Moses sent out a reconnaissance mission and his messengers made a logical assessment based on a keen and objective evaluation. Wherein

'And God spoke to Moses say-

lies their guilt? Moreover, Jewish tradition deals more harshly with the scouts than with the other great sinners of the Bible, the worshipers of the Golden Calf. Since the three sins for which the Torah commands that we accept death rather than violate are idolatry, adultery and murder, it would certainly seem that the sin of the spies - not one of these three - deserves a more lement

punishment. Yet it is the sin of the spies which has the dubious honor of being the most heinous crime of the desert experience, and the one whose ramifications accompany us throughout history.

After all, midrashic tradition insists that the day when the spies returned with their ill-fated report was none other than Tisha Be'av, the date on which both of our Holy Temples were subsequently destroyed. The deaths of 3,000 instigators of the calf-worship cannot be compared to the Divine decree following the sin of the spies that the entire gener-

ation must perish in the desert. Why has the sin of the spies and not the sin of idolatry become the prototype for so much pain and suffering?

The answer can be found in the contrast between two Hebrew words which are often taken to be synonyms for each other, za'aka and tza'aka. The difference between the zayin of one word and the tzadi of the second makes all the difference in the world.

According to my teacher and mentor, Harav Joseph B. Soloveitchik, a tza'aka is associated with an outcry devoid of any therapeutic or salutary action. We read in the portion of Mishpatim: "You shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child. If you at all afflict them, and they cry to me, I will surely hear their cry..." (Ex. 22:21-22) The cry of the widow is a tza'aka, spelled with a tzadi. The Bible pictures a woman powerless to do anything except cry out to God!

In contrast, the context in which the word za'aka appears reveals a different type of cry. In the Book of Judges, for example, the verb vayazek describes General Barak calling out the troops. There was a cry, but not a directionless scream. Barak's cry is the cry of action.

Similarly, in the Book of Esther we read that Mordecai cries a great cry, vayizak za'aka gedola (Esther 4:1). This too is

not the hopeless cry of the widow. Mordecai doesn't stay home, expressing his pain to the heavens. He goes into the "midst of the city" and comes before the king's gate. Jews everywhere, in all the provinces, do the same. Word reaches Esther, and her direct involvement thrusts the tale forward, ultimately nullifying Haman's decree. Mordecai's za'aka is a political act of the highest order.

Ray Soloveitchik notes that the opening words of Maimonides' Laws of Fasting reads: "It is a positive commandment to cry out (lizok, with a zayin), and to blow the hatzotzrot [the silver trumpets of last week's portion] upon the advent of any danger." He explains that the great reli-

gio-legal codifier is thereby saving that our response to danger requires concrete action - war or negotiation. With this in mind, we see that

the basic difference between the sin of the spies and the sin of the golden calf is as significant as the difference between za'aka and tza'aka. In the golden calf debacle, the Jews were terrified at the absence of Moses, and in their desire to create a substitute bridge to God, they did the

wrong thing – but at least they did something. But when it came to the sin of the spies, the Jews seem more helpless than the weakest of the weak. They are paralyzed by the

negative report of the investig ing committee, and do nothing

And what causes this para sis? It is only their lack of se confidence, their sense of imtence. God may have had plan for this people, but the p ple have substituted their o agenda, or rather lack of o based upon the frailty of th bodies and the meagerness their imagination. They are grasshoppers in their own eye Their terror of the anal (giants), survivors of an anci period of history (Gen. 6 demonstrates that the desc dants of Abraham have lost the pride in themselves and the fore their confidence in G Hence they can only retreat the blank pages of Egypt, wh really means a return to prehi ry. They are unable to fo ahead with the plan God established. It is not surprising then

Tisha Be'av is associated v the sin of the spies because destruction of the two Tem represents a return to prehist The exiled, galut Jew can (cry to God in the form of a 'aka and not za'aka.

The sin of the spies is n manifest every time a Jew i longer willing or able to gra with ugly realities that the : tell us will be our lot in Is The sin of the scouts emphaour divinely mandated respbility to act in history; integrity and dignity.

Such action may include takes, but the worst mistal all is inaction, for it robs 1 any opportunity to prevail.

★K985 **♥**1098543 **▼**AQ762 **♦**K985

♣AK96

South (Weinstein) **•**QJ63

West North East South pass 2♥ pass 4♠

♣1087543

Opening lead: 44

HE biggest prize money in bridge history was awarded last month in New York. The event was the annual Cavendish Invitational Pairs, in which 40 expert pairs compete in a round-

The unusual aspect of the event is that the pairs are auctioned off to the public beforehand. The highest bidder buys the pair and, similar to a horse race, the "owners" of the pairs that finish "in the money" receive

The best buy this year was the pair that won the event, Fred Stewart and Steve Weinstein. They went off at \$27,000 but paid \$210,435 for first

So who was the lucky guy who won all this money? Not one person. The custom is that, after a pair is

purchased, others can approach the buyer and take a percentage. For example, if you bought 1% of the winners for the price of \$270, you would have gotten back \$2,104 for your bet, which is quite a payoff.

The total of \$814,750 collected in the auction was almost double that of last year's total. The players also received prize money, but much less, splitting \$15,300. Prizes were awarded down to eighth place.

TODAY'S DEAL was an important one for the winners. Stewart opened the North hand with a multi-two diamonds, showing a weak two-bid in either major or a strong three-suiter. The responder to this bid must cater

1 Went by cance perhaps and

5 Trade vehicles on the road

9 Repairer right to leave the island (5)

10 Can get round a river boat

11 A second answer-

12 City so backward, see (4)

14 With intention to stay

18 They shouldn't be worn out

21 Placed above one or two

22 Having made things worse was annoyed (10)

away being forgetful (6-6)

forgiveness (10)

prepositions (4)

got one's feet wet (7)

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first to the weak hand, which explains South's call.

Weinstein responded two hearts because his partner might have held a six-card heart suit with a weak hand. But when Stewart next bid three diamonds, which said he held a strong three-suiter, short in hearts, Weinstein was pleased to bid game. He held a rather weak hand, but he hoped his 6-4 distribution would make up for his lack of highcards.

Weinstein chose to play in spades rather than clubs, his longer suit, because he would need one less trick for game in the major.

West led a trump against four spades, the recommended opening when one opponent shows a 4-4-1 hand. The idea is to cut down ruffs, and though this is a sound idea, in this case it backfired

The simpler lead of the queen of clubs would have set the contract immediately. East could ruff the club lead, put partner back in with a heart play and receive a second club ruff. Eventually he would score the king of spades as well, which adds up to four tricks.

After the actual trump lead, the declarer, Weinstein, played low from dummy. East put in the eight, won by South's jack. Weinstein led a second round of trumps to dummy's 10 and this time East won

East now led the three of hearts to his partner's ace. The lead of the three rather than the 10 was an attempt to tell his partner that he wanted a club return. West understood the message and returned a clever deuce of clubs.

He did not want to return a club honor, else it would set up a finesse position against his other honor on the next round of the suit. By returning the deuce, if declarer put up the ace or king in dummy, West would still come to a club trick.

Weinstein was also watching the cards and spotted the suit-preference signal. Instead of playing a club honor from dummy, he ducked the trick, playing for the 3-0 club split. East ruffed the trick but that was

the last one for the defense.

Weinstein was able to win is trump

return, cash the ace and king of clubs, drawing West's queen and jack, then continue cashing clubs. Finally, he took a finesse in diamonds at the end to make his contract. It was a great duck by Weinstein and demonstrated that sometimes the defense can give too many signals, thereby helping an expert declarer read the position.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

relating to a manner of

26 It will stop one from going

27 Keep going producing most of the alternative response

28 One murmuring about salesman in Eastern

DOWN

1 Two foot tropical tree (6)

2 Periodical to take in (6)

3 Unnamed informant in the

4 Old coin, one stuck in the

5 Retaliation for one letter

misprint? (3,3,3)

speaking (9)

any further (5)

(5,2)

Region (7)

nest (6,4)

tube (5)

25 Singular branch of logic 6 Nearly everybody writing

13 Unfold



The survival of small birds depends to a large degree on their ability to choose a nesting site where

Humans help crows' bad behavior

OLLOWING last week's article about crows, many readers wanted to know what could be done to get rid of them. The main problem was in gardens where songbirds nest.. Crows attack the nests, destroying both chicks and eggs. One finch, having had its nest destroyed, immediately nested a second time only to lose that nest as well.

Jays and sometimes magpies behave like crows in this respect. Unfortunately it is a part of the natural way of things and, unpleasant as it may be, it is not a real threat to the songbirds except for those in a specific locality. It is just as natural for a crow or a jay or some other bird to prey on the nests of songbirds as it is for the parasitic cuckoo to then lay its eggs in a crow's nest where the young cuckoo will throw the crow chicks out of the nest and be raised

for relief for the poor (4)

7 Shoot dies out in hearth (8)

8 String found inside ice-cream on an airliner!

Inspector's cover (10)

glen freely (9)

the bloomer (6)

the dog (5)

24 Pool tax (4)

15 Impart knowledge in the

16 How some waiters formed a line (6,2)

17 Recommend a barrister (8)

19 Manet's discovered part of

20 Newspaperman got some credit originally (6)

23 Come round again about

SOLUTIONS

Yesterday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Trance, 4 Pyres, 8 Eaten, 9 Leaning, 10 Cyclone, 11 Year, 12 Hip, 14 Beam, 15 Avow, 18 End, 21 Odds, 23 Roceter, 25 Conced, 26 Among, 27 Dirty, 28

DOWN: 1 Trench, 2 Article, 3

Consomme, 4 Plan, 5 Raise, 6 Sugary, 7 Sleek, 13 Panorama, 16 Outcome, 17 Forced, 19 Droll, 20 Aright, 22 Donor, 24 Very.

DOWN

Detective

D'YORA BEN SHAUL

by the unwilling foster parents. Despite the fact that nest depredation is a natural phenomenon, one cannot overlook the fact that we humans have exacerbated the problem. In almost every case where someone called about this decimation of songbirds it turned out that there was a garbage dump or other crow attractant nearby. Crows love to scavenge, and find rubbish tips, open Dumpsters and the like irresistible. If you find a high crow population in a given area you'll almost always find edible garbage there as well.

THESE birds have been around for a few million years and somehow the balance has always been maintained to some degree. Songbirds are in most cases far

<u>INTRODUCINE</u>

INSPIRED BY AN ENA

& HEINIAM STYLE

more prolific than crows, not only because they lay more eggs and often nest more than once in a season, which crows do not, but because they have a far larger selection of nesting sites. The smaller birds' survival depends to a large degree on their ability to choose a nesting site where the

had chosen to nest in an orchard or olive grove she might well have raised a couple of successful nests full of fledglings but she didn't. She chose to nest in a: small garden right in the middle of an area with a very large crow population. If she and her progeny are to survive she will have to

cynical but if we really are interested in and appreciative of the vast network of nature around us we have to come to terms with the fact that the song of a lark on a summer morning is most pleasing to our own ears, but in the great ear of nature the staccato bank of a young fox who robbed the lark's nest and ate her eggs is just as

predator population is small. If the finch mentioned above

make a better choice next time. Now to some this may sound

A competition for romantics

NICK KOPALOFF

N keeping wiff our year-old tradition The Terusalem Post is again running the Benjamin Samuel Best Game competition. in memory of Dr. Samuel who died in Nahariya in 1982. It was in tribute to his love of the game that his relatives set up a chess

fund in his memory.

One of nine brothers and sisters, Dr. Samuel was born in Tredegar, Wales, but moved to Cardiff to pursue his high-school education. It was there that he first developed his lifelong passion for

Having graduated as a physician at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary, Dr. Samuel worked for a short time at the London Jewish Hospital where he met his future wife Lisa, a trained nurse. In 1936 he set up a practice in South Wales, where he taughtchess and organized local competitions.

The Samuels moved to Los

Angeles in 1948 and to Israel in 1970.

In deciding on the criteria by which to choose the best game from last year's entries, the thendee. Jerusalem Post columnist GM Nigel Davies, was looking for "something that reflects the depth and beauty of the human spirit." I shall not deviate from that romantic vision. The games must embody something out of the ordinary, even a conception of the absurd, and should reflect imagination and creativity rather

than theory and dogmatism.

To enter the Ben Samuel Best Game competition send your best game from 1996, including annotations in algebraic form, details of when, where, and against whom it was played, and a photocopy of your identity card to: Nick Kopaloff (chess), The Jerusalem Post, 5 Rehov Hamasger, Tel Aviv. Entries most arrive no later than July 31. Only one entry is allowed per player.

There will be a main prize of NIS 400 and also a special NIS 200 prize for the best game by any player under 16 years of age

THE ONLY prize that the following game from this year's national cup finals would most likely win, would be the worse performance by a top player. But that takes nothing away from the performance of the 17-year-old, super-talented Alexander Rabinowitz who emphatically destroys Mark Gleizer in a rare miniature.

Rabinowitz, Alexander Gleizer, Mark Tel Aviv 1996

Gambit,

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 a6 4.Ne3 Nf6 5.c5!? Bf5?! Theory recom-mends instead 5...g6 or 5...Nd7 6.Bf4 Nh5? 7.Bd2 h6?



DIAGRAM I

8.e4! This seemingly premature breakthrough in the center leaves Black, whose awkward development and cramped pieces do not offer him much in the way of counterplay, with no adequate defense. The postmortem analysis revealed that Black was doomed

from this stage on.
8. Bxe4 9.Nxe4! dxe4 10.Ne5! Ozd4 11.Oxh5 g6 12.Qh3! Nd7 13.Bc3! 1-0

IN the following position both White's rooks are hanging. It would appear that one pair of rooks must be exchanged followed by a nifty retreat. White however finds a more aggressive way to bring the game to a quick and decisive finish.

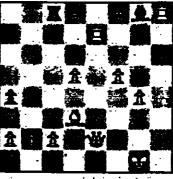


DIAGRAM 2

Solution: 1.16! This subtle move has fourfold consequences. Firstly it gives added protection to the vulnerable rook on e7. The sock on h8 cannot be captured on account of 2.fxg7++, and 1...Rxf6 would be met by 2.Bh7 Qxe7 3.Rxg8+ Kf7 4.Qxe7+ Kxe7

1_gxf6 2.Qe6! The f pawn now screens the White queen from the enemy rook and mate is imminent. Black's counterattack with a check on b6 does nothing to salvage the situation. 1-0





Queen's





*



Pinching doesn't hurt

DINCHING is the removal of the terminal bud (the growing tip) of a stem. This starts à hormonal process that forces the development of lateral (side) branches. New growth soon springs from lower nodes, or leaf axils, creating new branches and making the plant bushier and dense. You can pinch any perennial or annual that naturally branches, or that bears flower heads at the tops of leafy branches, as well as vines and shrubs that bloom on new growth. Bee balm (monarda), artemesia, coreopsis, Russian sage, and zinnias are a few good candidates. Plants which form a basal

rosette of leaves, such as coral bells or columbine, are not suitable for pinching. Neither are those which bloom on a single, tall, flowering stem, such as hol-lyhock, delphinium, or sunflowers, unless you don't mind sacrificing the tall natural spire for a lower growing, branched, but more floriferous display. To pinch your plants, just

squeeze the tip of the stem and the leaves between your thumbnail and forefinger, removing the plant parts above. Don't use scissors, use your fingernail. Actually

NEZ KLIMIST

pinch, don't cut. If you are pinching a multi-stemmed plant such as a chrysanthemum, nip off the tip of every stem so that they will all mature at the same rate. Pinch early in the season when

plants are about one-third their mature height. For even denser growth and more branches, pinch again when the plants reach about one-half to two-thirds of their mature height. In areas with long growing seasons, such as Israel, you can pinch two or three more

Pinching delays flowering, but each time you pinch, you multiply the number of flowers. If a plant is pinched very early in the season, long before the flower buds begin to form, it usually blooms at the same time as one that is unpinched, or anyway, within a week or so of it.

With some practice you can actually manipulate the blooming time of plants by pinching. In this way, you can bring adjoining flowers to bloom at the same time making a display of balanced colors. Pinching will make new plants

can also benefit. A once-over early in the season is an easy way to multiply the effect of a sparse clump of hyssop or to invigorate some new sprawling sage. The dense network of side branches created by pinching also helps tall growing plants like goldenrod and asters to better support themselves.

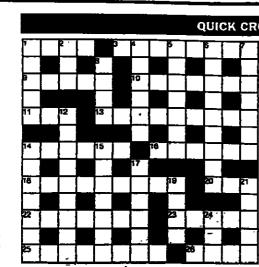
fill out fast, but established plants

To control the ultimate height of a plant such as a chrysanthemum, pinch frequently, nipping every shoot that's 12 cm. long, until about eight weeks before blooming time. This also prevents the

plant toppling over.

Lanky plants, from houseplants to windowsill-raised seedlings, can be improved by judicious pinching. When petunias start to get that weak, stretched out look, mp them halfway back and watch them perk right up with a new burst of vigor. A shot of liquid fer-tilizer will help too. Keep mints and basil, and other herbs in shape too, with pinching. Use up the

gleanings in your salad.
Pinching is also very easy to do as you stroll through the garden. You need no tools, and it's a job that can be done spontaneously in only a few minutes.



QUICK CROSSWORD 1 Heat food (4) 3. Monument (8) 9 Stiff (5) 10 Kingship (7) 11 Obscure (3) 13 Substitute (9) 14 Corset (6)

23 Telegraphed (5)

25 Pretend to be ill (8)

I Earth (5) 2 Mat (3) 4 Exclamation of triumph (6) 5 Greek epic poem 6 One hoping another will suffer harm (3-6) 7 Baby's outfit (7) 16 Litchi (6) 8 Eve's husband (4) 18 Won back (9) 12 Curative (9) 14 Bedroom (anag) 20 Tear apart (3) 22 Hung freely (7)

15 Charliecomedian (7) 17 Smear (6) 19 Sunrise (4) 21 Foot-lever (5)

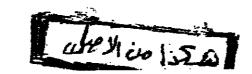




Notice to the Public

The Knesset will be closed to visitors on Sunday, June 9 and Thursday, June 13, 1996.





A pre-Disney theme park that's for real

Efteling is older than Disneyworld, and more popular than Israel. Haim Shapiro reports

The Jerusa

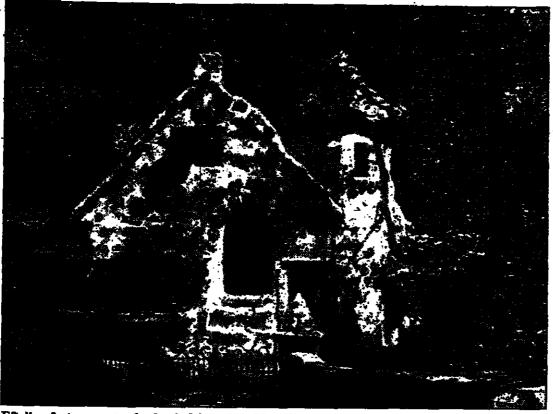
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S a parent, I have been litmay be a record number of erally dragged out of what famous museums and historic

In the days when my children were small enough to feel that way, they told me on more than one occasion that they never want to see a boring museum or a smelly old church again. I wish that I had known about Efteling, a pre-Disney theme park in southern Holland, the largest of its kind in Europe and a place where the stone castles and wooden turrets are made with real stones and real wood. Its new entrance, The Honse of the Five Senses, is said to have the biggest thatched roof in the world.

You can also walk on real ground, under real trees, and see more real tulips than are on display at Kenkenhoff, Holland's famous tulip fields. I visited Efteling as the guest of Travel Makers, an Israel-based tour company, which represents the park and organizes package tours

which include the attraction. The fairy-tale theme park was opened in 1949, long before Disneyland, the first of the Disney theme parks, opened its doors. At Effeling, the characters were all based on images designed by the Dutch artist Anton Pieck, According to the people at Efteling, Disney him-



Efteling features not only classic fairy-tale exhibits like Hansel and Gretel in their gingerbread house (left), but also real-life attractions like Pirana, a spectacular wild water adventure.

embarking on his own theme

The vast park is located in South Holland, not far from the cities of Breda and Eindhoven and just over the border from Antwerp in Belgium. It is accessible by public transport - Dutch railways sell a reduced-price combined ticket covering the train, a bus from the station to the park and entry to the park. In 1995, it attracted more than 2.5 million visitors - more than visited Israel during the same year. This year, for the first time, Effeling also has an adjoining 18hole golf course.

THE crowds at Efteling are largely made up of families with small children, although there are plenty of unaccompanied teenagers.

Languages heard include Dutch followed by French and German, with only a sprinkling of English. The recorded messages at the attractions are in Dutch, while written explanations are in all four languages. Most of the attractions, however, need no spoken language. The admission fee of 32.50 Dutch florins (about \$20) includes all rides and attrac-

For example, visitors will instantly recognize Sleeping Beauty, her chest gently rising and falling, a handkerchief with a drop of blood in her hand, while the wicked witch spins away in the antechamber. Nor is it difficult to recognize Hansel and Gretel in their gingerbread house, or Snow White surrounded by the

The dwarfs are pre-Disney figures, with distinctive faces. I am not sure how today's children, raised on television and movie stereotypes, will react. Perhaps the thought of an amusement park without Mickey Mouse will be too much of a strain, or perhaps they too will breathe a sigh of

For visitors from this part of the world, an attraction that should not be missed is Fata Morgana, an Arabian Nights fantasy with elements from Tangier to Delhi. What makes this special are not the realistic figures or "frightening" effects, which might be experienced in many other theme parks, but rather the poor quarters, where visitors are solicited by beggars, and the sultan's palace, where they see the harem

and chests overflowing with jew-For the adventurous, Efteling

has two roller coasters, a dry bobsled run, and a water-adventure ride known as the Pirana. There are other boat rides, a train which circles the entire park, and two rowing ponds. It is, they say, the largest such

park in Europe. The pagoda, which raises visitors up 40 meters and revolves, provides a sweeping panorama, affording a bird's eye view. Incidentally, our group of Israeli journalists had the distinction of being the first to ever drop a camera from the pagoda.

THE Villa Volta succeeds in providing a thrill with relatively little movement. The attraction is based upon the tale of an 18thcentury robber baron who rampaged through southern Holland, robbing and killing. After he robbed a church, however, he was cursed that he would never find peace in his own house.

Visitors enter the robber's "house" and are seated in benches facing each other on two sides. The benches begin to sway back and forth. They do not go that far, but while they are swaying the entire room begins to revolve, giving participants the feeling that they are being turned upside

More conventional accommodation is provided by the Efteling Hotel, a two-minute walk from the park, but in some cases the accommodation is only slightly more conventional. For the most part, the 121 rooms of the hotel have standard facilities, with two double beds. TV, bath, hair dryer, trouser press and safe. However there are a dozen theme rooms where guests can indulge in their favorite fantasies.

There is a golfer's room, complete with a putting green and a closet in the form of dressingroom lockers, a Fifties room, with its own jukebox and a bed which is part of a vintage Cadillac. There are fairy-tale rooms with bowls of candy, and a room dedicated to John Pemberton, the inventor of Coca-Cola, where you can get all the Coke you can drink.

The most spectacular is the bridal suite, with its own Jacuzzi for two and a large round bed which revolves while playing music under a mirror on the ceil-

Catch the spirit of Beit Jimal while you can

HERE are two reasons to visit Beit Jimal - its asso-ciation with Rabban Gamaliel and the fact that it is about to be engulfed in the urban sprawl of Beit Shemesh.

south from the Shimshon Junction, past Beit Shemesh. To the left of the road, you can see mammoth roadworks and preparations for a large addition to the town, which once had a reputation for being a disadvantaged community.

When you turn left at the sign to Beit Jimal, do not be discouraged by the fact that you are on a dirt road. The asphalt resumes after a few dozen meters.

It will bring you eventually to a square, rather pedestrian-looking 19th-century looking monastery

It was built by the Silesian Fathers, an order which establishes vocational schools for boys around the world.

In the back of the monastery is the church, built in 1933 on the foundation of an older Byzantine chapel.

Fragments of the mosaic floors from the structure have been restored and are displayed. along the entry hall.

The chapel itself is a lesson in kitsch. Imitation mosaics in lurid colors line the wall, and above them are frescoes with baby-blue skies.

Only the wooden-beamed ceiling, painted in the sort of folk-pattern one might expect to see on a Sicilian donkey cart, provides relief.

On the south side of the church, near the altar, are a series of stairs going down to the crypt. The monks who built the church associated the crypt with that of the Byzantine Beit Gamala, where ossnaries containing the bones of both Rabban Gamliel the Elder and of St. Stephen were said to be

buried. According to the New Testament, St. Paul was once a student of Gamliel. There is a Christian tradition which says that St. Stephen was also a student of the noted talmudic sage.

The crypt is now empty, having been robbed of its contents centuries ago, thus sparing us at least one religious dispute.

The decor of the chapel does not seem to have deterred the many musicians who regularly come there to give concerts or the audiences who attend these

In the summer, the concerts are held every two weeks, late Saturday afternoon, after the

heat of the day has passed. At a nearby shop, you can buy olive oil and wine produced by the monks of Latran from the grapes tended by the monks of

Just below the monastery is a convent, the home of the Sisters of Bethlehem, a contemplative order which is so strict that not only do the nuns rarely speak to each other, they even eat most of their meals alone.

Only on Sunday do they have a joint meal and a few hours in which they may converse.

The nuns, who have built the entire convent with their own hands, treasure their privacy and do not encourage visitors. However, they do have a shop

where they sell their ceramic work, and they allow visitors to view their church from a balcony. The church is austere in style, with virtually no decorations and separate choir stalls

convent are open from about 9 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

view, while it lasts.

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The monastery and convent are surrounded by trees under which the monks and nuns are apparently not averse to visitors having picnics. From there, you can enjoy what is left of the

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Far East travel needs special preparation

ITH the close of the academic year, Deputy
Foreign Minister Eli Davan has sent a letter of warning to

those planning a trip to the Far East.
The letter, distributed through travel agents, calls on the wouldbe travelers to equip themselves thoroughly before they leave home, not to travel alone in areas known to be dangerous, and to acquaint themselves with local vs, especially those regarding drug trafficking.

As the letter points out, some countries have mandatory death penalties or long prison terms for those who sell even a small quantity of drugs.

FOR STUDENTS and young people seeking a vacation closer to home, ISSTA, which specializes in this travel, reports that a week in the Greek islands can cost less than NIS 1,500.

The company is marketing a seven-night package to Santorini, Ios and Naxos for \$569. The company is also selling six-night packages to Bodrum from \$485.

FOR THE elderly, Peltours is offering a golden-age tour of with tours in a bus with a lavatory.

FOR OTHERS seeking very low prices, there is a wide range of opportunities for travel in Bulgaria, available from Baron Tours.

The price of a 10-day tour starts at \$697, a round-trip flight to Sofia costs from \$320, and the price of a four-day package visit starts at \$299.

IN EILAT, the new Holiday Inn

HAIM SHAPIRO Eilat Patio is offering a room with breakfast, including two children under 19, for NIS 300. The hotel also offers free entry to various attractions for those staying three

> IF YOU are planning to visit Britain, the British Council

or more nights.

libraries in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem are offering a travel information pack, with a wide assortment of brochures, mini-guides and maps published by the British Tourist Authority. There is a service charge of NIS 15 for the pack.

replica of Shakespeare's Globe Theater, which is to open on August 21 with The Two Gentlemen of Verona. Also opening in August is Segaworld, billed as "the world's largest futuractive indoor theme park.

Among the attractions available in London this summer are the

SWITZERLAND can be affordable, according to Swissair, which Budget Holiday Offer."

Included are biking and hiking excursions and apartment rentals. For example, a one-room apartment for two rents for SFr 312 a week until mid-July, going up to SFr 391 until late August.



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We shall tour the foothills of the 5,200m, snow-covered Mt. Kenya, visit the Samburu game reserve, home to unusual giraffes and zebras, see the millions of flamingos on lake Nakaru and then continue south to the Masai Mara Reserve, with its monkeys, hippopotami

and lions. We'll meet members of various local tribes, including nomads and Bantu farmers.

The accommodation is excellent !

The dates: Departure Monday, July 15; return Monday, July 22.

The price: US \$1930 per person (with double room occupancy) includes: Return flight by El Al, use of special safari vehicles with viewing platform, 7 nights in first-class hotels and safari lodges, full board (breakfast only, during two stays in Nairobi).

Experienced tour guide - English-speaking zoologist, Uzi Meiboom.

PLEASE NOTE - There is no travel on Shabbat. Fish and vegetarian food is available.

For reservations and further information, contact The Jerusalem Post Travel Club Tel: 02-6221679, Fax: 02-236161 Sun-Thur 9am-6pm - ask for Tova or Nicole.

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We'll stay in first-class or quality tourist hotels, travel in air-conditioned buses, be accompanied by a full-time English-speaking guide from Geographical Tours in Israel, and a local guide where necessary. The price includes all this plus the round-trip flight, half board accommodations (breakfast and evening meal) and admission to all sites.

THE DATE:

Monday, August 26 - Tuesday, September 2,

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US\$ 1,825 per person in a double room. US\$ 278 extra for a single room.

For reservations and further information: The Jerusalem Post Travel Club Tel. 02-6221679 Fax. 02-236161 Sun.-Thur., 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Ask for Nicole or Tova. North East-V

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Return of the tribes

Rampant sectorialism threatens to undermine national unity, **Abraham** Rabinovich writes

S someone who wanted nothing more than to be swept up into the Israeli mainstream when he arrived as a 13-year-old immigrant, the revelation in last week's Knesset elections that Israel has reverted to a tribal society marks for author Eli Amir a dangerous national failure. "Zionism had two central

themes - Ingathering of the Exiles and their integration into one society," says Amir, who immigrated from Baghdad in 1950. "This ideology has now been shattered."

From the perspective of sociologist Oz Almog, however, the emergence of strong religious and ethnic parliamentary blocs is a mere blip that has no bearing on Israel's inexorable march, as a modern society, towards secu-

"Technology is more important than ideology," he says. The splintered society reflected in the Knesset vote was a greater surprise than the result of the prime minister's race.

Hundreds of thousands of voters deserted the two major parties in droves at their first opportunity - a new electoral system permitting split voting and rallied to flags held aloft by Shas, the National Religious Party, United Torah Judaism, the Arab parties and Natan Sharansky's Yisrael Ba'aliya. It is seen as an ominous development by many concerned with Israel's stability.

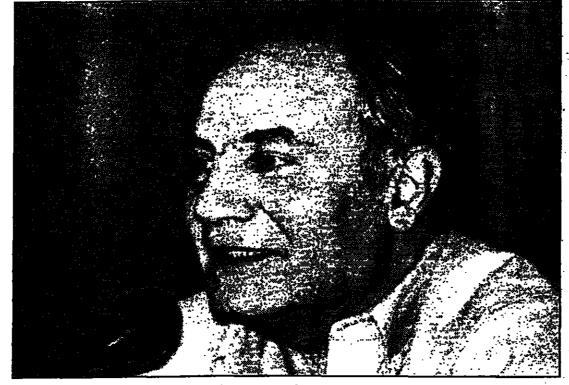
"Tribalism is acceptable as long as it is a temporary phenomenon on the road to nationbuilding," said Amir this week. "It even has positive aspects in that it enriches our common culture. But the goal must be to make of these different tribes one society. If we are not united and strong we will break."

Regardless of peace treaties, says Amir, the Arabs will continue to aspire to drive Israel into the sea, given the opportunity. "If we do not have a clear identity, the Third Temple [an allusion to modern Israel] is in danger."

Amir, who is director of the Youth Aliya Department of the Jewish Agency, wrote two critically acclaimed and best-selling novels based on his experiences as a young immigrant in the

"What characterized my generation - those of us who came from the Arab world and those who came from Eastern Europe - was a desire to belong to the mainstream," he says.

"We were ashamed of belonging to other tribes. We wanted to be part of the Israeli ethos. The sabra was our hero. We learned Hebrew very fast. Within 10 years of the mass immigration of the early 1950s, when 800,000 immigrants came in three years, we were producing top authors writing in Hebrew like Sami Michael and Aharon Appelfeld." Not a single Hebrew writer of note has emerged from the sizable Russian immigration of the 1970s, he says, and Russian



Eli Amir: We've yet to define the main elements of our national identity – the country's borders, the question of religion and state, whether we're a Jewish state or a state of all its citizens

immigrant writers continue to write in Russian with the aim of being translated.

UNLESS checked, warns Amir, sectorialism will become rampant. "What this means is that each group takes care of its own. Shas is running its own education and welfare systems and so are the haredim. They are taking unto themselves the task of the state. They can take care of their own better than the general population is taken care of because they're dealing with smaller

The success of the sectorial groupings, says Amir, feeds their appetites, which will be further encouraged by competition between them as to which group gets more for its followers. This will encourage other interest groups to set up shop as

"If everybody takes this route we have lost the common interest that binds us. Our problem is that we still have not defined the main elements of our national identity - not the country's borders, nor the question of religion and state, nor whether we are a Jewish state or a state of all its citizens. Nor culture - are we a Western society, Middle Eastern, Mediterranean, a mixture? Tribalism prevents us from coming to grips with these questions and trying to formulate

Amir blames the new electoral system for encouraging this fragmentation, even if it didn't create it. "We are still a democracy-in-the-making and can't afford experiments like this. Democracy has not been internalized by much of the population - those from Arab countries and those from Eastern Europe. The new system is a disaster and must be dropped. It has given legitimization to the re-creation of the 12 tribes."

The two major parties, he says, must see to it that the government gives all its citizens a sense that they have "a father who cares for them and respects them." This would obviate a dependence on sectorial support systems. It is vital, he says, to engage the nation in ideological discussions on these questions.

The one group Amir has no hope of including within the national consensus is the haredim. "They are outside the game," he says.

TO SOCIOLOGIST Menahem Friedman of Bar-Ilan University the haredim behaved in this election as if they were part of the game. "The total mobilization in the haredi camp for a secular candidate was unprecedented." said Prof. Friedman, speaking of the support for Prime Minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu. So was the enthusiasm. "What I saw on the streets

In the past, the Council of Sages, calculating where haredi interests lay, decided for whom the haredi masses would cast their vote. This time, says Friedman, it was the masses who decided and the rabbis who went

in Bnai Brak was astonishing,

The haredi masses are traditionally right wing. That's where Jabotinsky found followers in Poland. They are less cosmopolitan than the left and their instinctive feeling is 'the world is against us.' In addition, says Friedman, the

haredim this time were driven to a frenzy by Meretz's provocatively antireligious stance. "Meretz reminded the haredim of something they had forgotten - the Kulturkampf of the '20s and '30s."
To Dr. Almog, who teaches

sociology at the Jezreel Valley Community College, the seeming rise of the religious camp in the elections was an optical illusion. What Israel was in fact witnessing, he says, was a reac-tion to the loss of religion - the secular religion that was Zionist nationalism. The erosion of Zionist values and symbols, says Almog, has brought Israel into a twilight era - the post-Zionist era - where the old national ethos has been eroded and the new one that will replace it is still taking shape.

"When you are suddenly without religion you are filled with fear and anger and you retreat into yourself," says Almog, son of former navy commander Ze'ev Almog. "There is regression, a feeling that things are going too fast. We see this in Eastern Europe too where they are voting socialist governments back into power. But regression is always temporary. What will determine cultural tradition is

technology."
The global village is upon us and Israel, more than most societies, is destined to become an

enthusiastic player in that technological world, says Almog. "Israel is a new, flexible society which adjusts quickly to change and new technological toys," he says. "Just look at the use of cellular telephones here. We may be the highest in per-capita ownership of computers in the world. The Internet will be used widely. Even the lower class speaks English not badly."

CONTRARY to popular impression, says the 36-year-old sociologist, surveys show that Israel is becoming ever more secular, a trend hastened not only by technology but also by economic change. "This happens in the second or third generation," says Almog. "Among Shas supporters, 60 percent are traditional, not religious. The father may go to synagogue on Saturday moming, eat kosher, and drive to the soccer game in the afternoon. The son might not go to the synigogue on Saturday morning." As for Russian immigrants, he notes, the bulk are nonreligious and there are close to a million of them, old and new.

The Likud vote was not against the peace process, says Almog, but was primarily a way of telling the Arabs "in your face" after they responded to Israel's outstretched hand with suicide bombers.

As for the haredim, they are indeed "outside the game," but even in that camp more slip away into the secular world than ioin it from the outside as penitents, according to studies. This net loss is more than offset. however, by the extraordinarily high haredi birthrate.

As for the believers in Greater Israel within the National Religious Party, says Almog, they will remain steadfast. Their identity derives from the ethos of Greater Israel. It is a religion within a religion. I predict that when the peace process is completed some will become haredim and others will become secular. That is what happens to a cult when it loses its guru or the ethos ends. You redefine your religion."

One way or another, if the peace process indeed brings peace and Israeli society finally has a quiet morning to examine itself in the mirror, it is likely to draw some interesting conclusions about what it has become and what it wants to be

Brotherly love among Likud leaders

MICHAL YUDELMAN

T just isn't healthy to let senion people sit around tense and inder strain, waiting to discover what ministry they are going to get, David Levy said this week. Someone pass the poor boy an executive toy.

Levy hastened to clarify that he

was not referring to himself - oh no, of course not. Everyone knows, it was implied and went without saying, that he is assured of receiving the Foreign Ministry. (Don't mention national unity govern-

No, Levy let it be understood be was consumed with brotherly con-cern for poor Ariel (Arik) Sharon. But at least one "hello" call from the new national leader would be -

Sharon indeed was reported to be firming. He and Levy should feel wronged - after all, was it not they who brought Binyamin Netanyahu his victory on a platter?

And there was Bibi sitting in his bureau, deluged with bouquets and accolades, with peers of the land tramping in to swear allegiance. Good grief, he was even smiling and chatting with Shimon Peres. The architects of it all, David and Arik, sat alone in their offices, waiting in vain for the phone to ring.

The seeds of the rift between Sharon and Netanyahu sprouted last week. On election night, Sharon was making his way to the Tel Aviv fairgrounds to appear alongside Bibi and Levy before the depressed Likud activists who feared defeat.

About an hour out of Tel Aviv, he was told by car phone that Netanyahu and Levy had already made their joint appearance, rallied the troops to a new frenzy of hope, and returned to their hotel rooms. Sharon turned around and went

home. He hasn't heard from Netanyahu since. He hasn't been altogether idle,

however. He visited haredi rabbis in Bnei Brak, ostensibly to thank them for supporting Netanyahu. But the visit was well calculated as a lobby for the finance portfolio. The haredi leaders, Sharon's people let it be known, want Sharon to be the finance minister so that someone reliable can make good on all those campaign promises. Otherwise, they might just remember come next election time.

The implied threats made no impression on Netanyahu, Unlike

previous prime ministers who quivered when Sharon flexed muscle, the first directly mandated prime minister has no intention of stooping to murmurs of reconciliation, his people hint.

TITANS CLASH Super-Haim Ramon and Ehud Rambo Barak, Labor's great election white hopes and promising future leaders, turned with snarls and bared fangs on one another and proceeded to tear the stuffing out of the already shattered party.

In a last fling in the public eye before they disappear into the twilight zone of opposition, the two



MK David Levy (right) let it be understood he was consumed with brotherly concern for poor Ariel Sharon. (Briss Readlet)

savaged each other for losing the

Since Ramon was the one who laid down the campaign propagan-da line, he will be forever the one with the mark of Defeat '96 on his

But even Ramon's bitterest enemies in Labor dismissed a malicious conspiracy theory that he actually had sabotaged Peres, on the assumption that a defeated Peres would step down, leaving the party leadership up for grabs. It is a measure of the shocked dis-

belief in the party that such a silly rumor could even surface. The colossal failure - all the more scalding for being by 0.9 percent — will hang like an albatross around Ramon neck's for a long time indeed, or long enough at least, say party pundits, to disqualify him from the leadership arena in the next showdown. "There is just too much pain, too

much anger to allow Ramou to stay in the party leadership now," one central activist said, "The election defeat opened up all the wounds from Rabin's murder, which were so carefully hidden by Ramon's disastrous campaign. It will take a long time to get over that." People in Labor have been quick

to recall Ramon's role in smashing the Histadrut, which was the party's organizational backbone come election time. The shattered Histadrut apparatus - once tens of thousands of activists across the country rallying the faithful - contributed in no small way to the fiasco of these elections for Labor. So tainted is Ramon with failure

that there is early speculation he might even withdraw from party ranks and set up an independent movement, based on his Ram faction, to prepare to assault the next Knesset from outside Labor. That leaves Barak as the blue-

eyed leadership boy of the moment. A strong leader, a prominent public figure who operates with cool logic and doesn't cave in under pressure. they say in Labor, "that's who we need to take on Netanyahu."

NATIONAL WHAT? Labor leaders are terrified that the crushing of both large parties under . the wheels of the new election system will continue in Labor itself once it is in opposition and bloody internal war crupts. They are even more spooked by

the possibility that Netanyahu will steal "their" peace process from under their noses and push it forward (having little choice under vast American, Arab and international pressure and established by the "peacenik" campaign he ran himself.)

This could leave Labor completely off of the public agenda.

Barak might be able to rehabilitate the party, restore its affiliation with large alienated segments of the public, and remain at the center of decision making, only as part of a national unity government. It would also provide both major parties with

an opportunity to change the calamitous election law. Someone took the trouble one night this week to call Peres and tell him Barak had met secretly with Netanyahu to discuss the issue, a piece of gossip which, as it later transpired, was groundless.

BIASED PUPPETS

It is usually accepted that winners run off with the spoils and get on with the business at hand, while the losers are left to white and recriminate. But the right-wing Media.
Watch continued railing against the media and how it serves the left

They continued to lash out at everyone - Channel 1's Popolitika. Channel 2's comic Zehu Zeh, Gidi Gov, radio news, etc. Eyen those wretched Hartzufim

puppets have a secret lefty agenda.
Since they began as the British Spitting Images and emigrated to conquer France and Russia, the lookalike puppers have whipped the ground from under pointicians left, ner subcarper they have mental Here they now stand accused, no

less, of fabricating a romance between Bibli and Likud MK Limor Livnat, and of making rude comments about "safe peace" with (nadge, madge) "safe sex," and "mbber constaceptives." Has Media Watch not yet noticed

that Netanyahn actually won? Sources close to the Hartzufim had no time to comment on all of these accusations. They are far too busy updating their own party lists. Get ready for the grand entrances Hartzuf Deri, Hartzuf Sharansky

and Hartzuf Hanegbi.

And how about a puppetry team of Media Watchers? Maybe they might have a sense of humor.

Bandits couldn't hold back this donor

GREER FAY CASHMAN

Also present at the dedication

T'S not commonplace for an octogenarian who has grap-Lpled with an armed bandit and been bashed on the head to get up and fly halfway around the world. But Isador Magid, who turns 83 at the end of this month, is a special kind of individual who never delays a commitment. Magid, a member of the Board of

Governors of the Hebrew University, had promised to be present for this week's dedication ceremony of the Magid Institute for Continuing Education at HU's Mount Scopus campus. So bearing his scars, and with four generations of his family in attendance, he came to see the fruition of his project.

> was a large delegation of the Australian Friends of the Hebrew University, plus many transplanted Aussies now living in Israel including Eliahn Honig, associate vice president of the Hebrew University, Amiel Gurt, legal adviser to Bank Hapoalim, and Prof. Shlomo Slonim. They were joined by Avraham Avi-Hai, Shlomo Hillel, Simcha Dinitz, Yehiel Leket and Yitzhak Rogow who worked with Magid in his various capacities in the Jewish Agency and Keren Hayesod. MEMBERS OF the diplomatic

corps who wanted to get a better understanding of the religious grip on Israeli politics had the per-fect opportunity Saturday night, when they and other theaterlovers gathered in the garden of British Ambassador David Manning and his wife Kathryn to witness excerpts from the Cameri Theater's production of the prophetic play, Tikkun Hatzot ("Midnight Prayer"). Coauthor Amnon Levy, while basking in the praise that has been lavished on the work, has discovered that there's another side of the coin. Since the elections, he said, people have been holding him responsible for the fact that Shas received 10 mandates. Tel Aviv mayor Roni Milo, who is chair man of the Cameri's Board of Governors, assured the audience that despite the new political

strength of the religious parties life in Tel Aviv would go on as usual, with restaurants and places of entertainment open on Shabbar.

ALSO ON the Cameri program were excerns from Shakespeare's Contedy of Errors - in Helinbury of course. Writen mask to brack the course of the Dan Ahmagor, who has a limack for tuning the trivia of history into interesting anecdotes, recalled that the first Hebrew production of Shakespeare had been King Lear. It had been staged by a group of high-school amateurs in Phonsk, and the lead actor, a youngster by the name of David Green, later came to this country and played a far more dramatic other his new name of David Beef Gunon. THOUGH TIPPED for a dimister-

ial post in the recoll government, Ehnd Ohmert is keeping mum about whether and what When asked by issuel Radio whether he was ceding his position as mayor of Jerusalem, Olmert replied that the only job more important than his was that of prime minister. The mayor said that when he had asked Bibi Netanyahu why he wanted to be prime minister, the PM-to-be replied that the Jerusalem mayoralty was already taken. TWO NEPALESE royals set foot

in Israel yesterday with minimal faufase. Their Royal Highnesses Princess Helen Shah and her daughter, Princess Jayanti Shah, both highly active in the Nepal Cancer Relief Society and the Nepal Red Cross, have arrived on a private visit during which they will tour the country extensively. There will be some pomp and ceremony, however, when they dine at the President's Residence

with Reuma Weizman and at a dinner which will be hosted by Nepalese Consul-General Adina Gottesmann at the end of their

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THE JERUSALEM

BUSINESS & FINANCE

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 1996

Just not Sharon

ON THE AGENDA

AMOTZ: ASA-EL

A SUDDEN change in timehonored rules is usually difficult to digest, for anyone past retirement age, but even more so for Ariel Sharon, who during his 68 eventful years has earned a reputation for preferring to set rules for others while remaining somewhat unruly himself.

One can understand, therefore, Sharon's pretensions to dictate an agenda for prime minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu by insisting on clutching to his famous bosom our infamous

Apparently, Sharon is under the impression that the political ecosystem to which he has grown so accustomed during 15 ministerial years should remain intact under Israel's new governmental system.

He is wrong. Twisting the premier's hand the way he did to Yitzhak Shamir back in 1990 no longer works. Netanyahu's political prominence in this country has been established by the people. Sharon's behavior implicitly disapproves of the voter's will.

Moreover, Sharon's wailing that it was he who bandaged Likud's wounds by prodding David Levy to return home is misleadmg, much like Sharon's cries that he facilitated Netanyahu's victory by withdrawing from the race for the premiership.

If anything, Sharon played a major role in Likud's near-dis-

memberment six years ago when he relentlessly, openly and rudely undermined Shamir's position. As for his withdrawal from the premiership race, rather than reflect chivalry it merely stemmed from a sober realization that he

had no chance to win. Surely, Sharon's attempts to disturb Netanyahu's work -- both by interfering in his choice of finance minister, and by running a televised tour of hassidic rabbis as a means of pressure - are in themselves alarming and should disqualify him for the Treasury.

But more to the point, Sharon is utterly unsuitable for the job. The next finance minister

The next finance minister should be a staunch capitalist, fully committed to privatization. intimately familiar with capital markets and a darling of investment houses from Wall Street to Tokyo. Sharon is none of the above. His would be an old-style Treasury which, like other ministries he previously headed, would generate plenty of spoils for cro-nies and little reform for us.

should be an obedient lieutenant on the one hand, and a graduate of the business sector on the other. Sharon is neither. On the contrary: politically, his looms as a career severely checkered with disobedience, and economically though he has his own farm since his retirement from the milrtary in 1973 he was always a fulltime politician.

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Housing starts plunge in first quarter of '96

THERE were 11,790 housing starts during the first quarter of the year, a 42 percent decline in comparison with the corresponding period last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

The figure indicates a decline also in comparison with the previous quarter, though a much more moderate 2%. The 20,200 housing starts registered in 1995's first quarter were the most in any quarter since 1991.

Of this year's first-quarter housing starts, 8,330 were by the private sector, a decline of 9% in comparison with the corresponding period last year, while the public sector's 3,460 housing starts reflected a 69% plunge in comparison with last

year's first quarter.

Housing completions during the first quarter reached 12,202, a 44% drop in comparison with last year's first quarter. Overall space in houses completed during the first quarter totaled 2.19 million sq.m., 35% more than their level in last vear's first quarter.

Residential-housing completions over the first quarter stood at 1.75 million sq.m., 12% lower than the previous quarter, but 42% higher than its level during the corresponding period last year.

As of March 31, the total inventory of apartments under construction reached 90,100, 11% more than its level at the end of last year's first quarter, the CBS reported.

Jerusalem Bank seeks merger with General Bank

JERUSALEM Bank, in partnership with its parent company Export Investment, is expected to bid for the purchase of General Bank next week.

Other contenders include Union Bank, the Etgar fund in partnership with investors from Columbia, Brazilian banker Edmundo Safdie, and a consortium headed by the Dankner group.

Industry sources, who estimate Baron Edmond de Rothschild's 52.8% share in the bank will be sold for about \$50m., consider the Jerusalem Bank a "perfect" buyer for General Bank.

The purchase of General Bank will enable Jerusalem Bank, which specializes in mortgages, to immediately enter into the fields defined in the framework of its business plan, without the need to increase its capital in the short term, according to a

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GALIT LIPKIS BECK management report which will

be presented to Jerusalem Bank's board of directors

"Unlike many other banks, General Bank does not have a complicated loan portfolio," said one banker, who described the bank as "a little inefficient" but also ripe for a significant improvement of its capital

The prevalent feeling in the industry is also that the field of private banking on the whole is set for expansion.

Industry sources believe the Jerusalem Bank has a very good chance of acquiring Baron Edmond de Rothschild's shares since the two institutions' managements have good ties, and because Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles favors the

Jerusalem management claims control of General Bank will enable the purchasers to go ahead with their business plan which involves expansion of activities in the capital market, mortgages and private banking. The

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business plan, which was

submitted to the board in January, is based on the recommendations of David Blumberg, deputy chairman of the bank and chairman of the executive management committee.

According management's report, which will be submitted to Jerusalem Bank's board early next week, the purchase would allow an immediate entry into activities defined in the business plan. Consequently, the bank would save the direct cost of adjusting the foundation needed to operate in private banking and capital markets, while also saving expenses resulting from a loss of income during the set-up period and first stages of

operation. In addition, control would reduce labor expenses and also the time and effort it takes to obtain licenses and approvals necessary to go ahead with its strategic plan, according to Jerusalem Bank's management.

The combination of both banks' activities, and the subsequent operation of a private bank with mortgages and capital-market services, would allow for a more efficient usage of the existing foundations of both banks while also generating savings in operating costs, particularly in manpower, said the report.

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BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Negative yields for commercial banks' provident funds: The commercial banks' provident funds achieved negative real yields of 0.5%-1% in May, according to estimates. First International Bank, the first bank to report its yields, announced real yields of 0.09% to -0.36% yesterday. Calculation of the real return is done according to the April Consumer Price Index which rose 1.7%. First International Bank's Meitav fund, which manages assets of NIS 987m., achieved a negative real return of 0.36% in May and accumulated real return of 0.48% since the start of the year. The other banks are expected to published the full provident fund yields for May at the start of next week.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Koor buys 6% of Shemen

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

KOOR Industries has purchased six percent of food producer Shemen for NIS 4.3

The shares were purchased in an off-floor transaction Wednesday, via Koor's brokerage firm, Koor Investment House, a subsidiary of Koor Capital Markets. The shares were purchased from various institutional investors at about 7.3% higher than market prices.

A Koor spokesperson confirmed that the company has in-creased its share in Shemen, adding that the purchase is in the framework of Koor's business strategy to increase its holdings of companies that make up its main

The transaction was concluded about two weeks after Shemen signed an agreement to sell 50 percent of its wholly-owned subsidiary Sod to the German Henkel consortium for NIS 23.59m. The two companies have agreed to establish a new company under equal control, for the manufacturing and marketing of toiletries

Russia's grab of central bank money worries economists

MOSCOW (Reuter) - Government plans to use trillions of rubles of central bank cash are ringing alarm bells about the state of the economy just 10 days before Russians go to the polls to elect a new president.

Economists said yesterday the plan would pump inflationary rubles into the financial system just as monthly price rises have reached an all-time low.

The law transferring five trilfion rubles (\$1 billion) of central bank profits to the government was approved by President Boris Yeltsin late on Wednesday after being rushed through parliament in the teeth of central bank opposition.

"It's certainly inflationary," said Gavin Rankin, head of research at Troika Dialog brokerage.

The move highlights tensions between a central bank intent on a tough anti-inflationary policy and a cash-strapped finance ministry looking for every available ruble, said United City Bank Christopher economist

The government needs money for defense industries and to pay teachers in the regions. Tax revenues are well below budgeted levels, and borrowing costs on the government bond market have soared to 180 percent a

In an election manifesto last week, Yeltsin said the government would scrap inflationary budgets, eliminate the deficit by 2000, bring inflation down to five percent a year, and achieve economic growth of four percent.

Yeltsin and his ministers, trying to min supercent discounts.

ing to win over voters disenchanted with the pain of economic reform, have predicted the economy will start to climb out of recession this year.

But Economy Minister Yevgeny Yasin said on Wednesday

that gross domestic product would fall 2%-3% this year. And despite a government

drive to pay off wage arrears this spring, unpaid back wages totaled nearly 24 trillion rubles at the start of May, up 15% on January, the Economy Ministry said. Most money is owed by the private sector.

That would leave the stability of the ruble and fall in inflation as the government's main economic achievements. The monthly rise in prices slowed to 1.6% in May, the

smallest rise since reforms began in 1992, from 2.2% in April. In January last year, it was 17.8%. Economists said those gains could be threatened by the new

"It has economic consequences. I wouldn't want to exaggerate them, we're talking about five trillion rubles, not 50 trillion, but it would tend to be expan-

sionary," said one economist. Campaign spending promises by Yeltsin are already likely to fuel inflation if carried out.

"May's 1.6% isn't a sustainable rate given the spending that's occurred before the election," said James Fenkner, director of research at CentreInvest

But he said the trend in annual inflation was still down. The State Statistics Committee

puts annual inflation at 27% if present trends continue, after 31% in 1995. Yeltsin's economic adviser Al-

exander Livshits said new central

bank law would help solve economic problems and should not damage the economy.

But Sergei Aleksashenko. first deputy central bank chairman, said the move contravened

the law on the central bank, which might go to court about it. This law prevents the government from taking direct credits from the central bank, something the government again pledged not to do when it nego-tiated a \$10 billion three-year loan from the International

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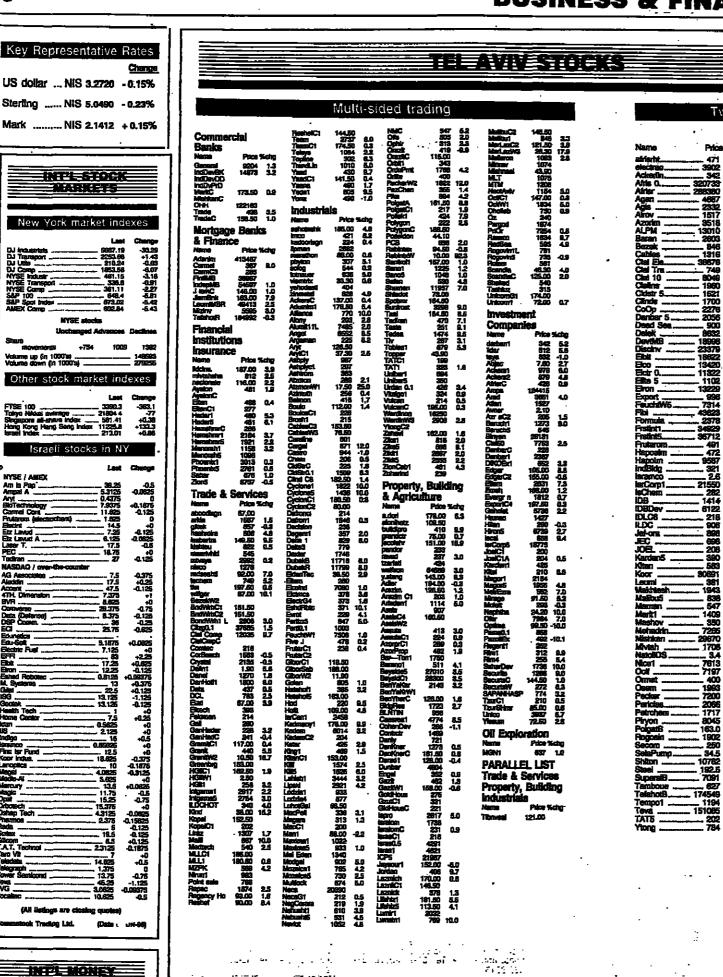
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Growing confidence in Netanyahu boosts TASE stock prices

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



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Two-Sided Index

THE major influence on the stock market in the days ahead is expected to be the shape of the government prime minister-elect Benjamin Netanyahu appoints, particularly his finance minister.

Stock indexes rose yesterday boosted by gaining share prices in Israeli companies traded on Wall Street and by growing confidence Netanyahu will implement economic reform. The Maof rose 0.63 percent to

220.33 and the Two-Sided 0.82% to 209.06. For the week, the Maof was up 2.9% and the Two-Sided 3.8%.

Teva Pharmaceuticals Ltd. rose 1% yesterday, following gains in Teva's American Depositary Receipts, which rose to 46% from 45% on Tuesday. Teva's Mact Index

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State .

Koor Industries rose 1.5% after Koor's ADRs rose % to 19. Koor's ADRs were also anchanged in early trading.

"The increase on Wall Street boosted prices," said Zvi Stepak, managing director of Meitav Ltd., "as did what's going on politically. There are fewer concerns Netznyahu won't continue the peace process."

The indexes recovered during the week, after falling over 4.5% last Thursday, when investors, surprised at Netanyahu's victory. sold shares amid concern the peace process would slow and the new prime minister would be unable to implement necessary eco-(Bloomberg) nomic reform.

FTSE closes higher amid slight interest rate cut

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuter) - Leading UK shares closed higher but with a distinctly muted reaction to news of a surprise 1/4 point cut in domestic interest rates, to 5.75 percent. An apparent lack of accord between UK Chancellor Kenneth Clarke and Bank of England governor Eddie George lent weight to a feeling that the rate move had a political motive rather than an economic need, traders and strategists said. The FTSE 100 closed 6.9 points higher at 3,760,3,

FRANKFURT - The share market was closed in most centers, with the exception of Hamburg and Bremes, for a regional public holiday. Trading will resume as normal today. The DAX index of 30 blue chip stocks closed up 6.28 points at 2,552.53 points in bourse trade on Wednesday.

PARIS - Shares ended higher, cat by the Bank of France but bumping up against technical resistance. Dealers predicted trading would be hesitant today ahead of US jobless figures. The higher in afternoon trade and blue-chip CAC-40 index closed up 17.87 points or 0.84 percent at

ported by a research study in which Union Bank of Switzerland said it appraised the Swiss banking sector from "underweight" to "slightly overweight". The broad SPI index gained 12.49 points to

TOKYO - Stocks closed slightly lower with selling of speculative shares in the afternoon undermining sentiment in extremely slow trade. The Nikkei average closed down 76.97 points, or 0.35%, at 21,804.46.

HONG KONG - Stocks closed with sharp gains, boosted by the strength of US stocks and bonds on a dip in commodities prices. The blue-chip Hang Seng Index surged 133.52 points, or 1.20% to close at 11.225.83.

SYDNEY - Shares ended lower with the resources sector taking a hammering from weaker base metals and a fading gold price. The All Ordinaries index 2,213.8.

JOHANNESBURG - Shares finished mixed after a disappointing day with industrials struggling golds sinking on the tumbling bullion price. The all-share index 2,133.22. put on 13 points to 6,828.0, indus-ZURICH - Shares closed high-ex, led by banks which were sup-and golds fell 60.9 to 1,915.6.

NY stocks close lower

WALL STREET REPORT

moved lower yesterday as a drop in interest rates failed to offset stocks pushed higher on a late womes that today's key employment report will include inflationary trends.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average dropped 30.29 points to close at 5,667.19, after retreating from a gain of more than 25 points at the open.

Broad-market indexes also turned lower after a strong opening. The NYSE composite index and the Standard and Poor's 500 list trailed lower after a brief move into record territory for the first time in nearly two weeks.

The Nasdaq market retreated from Wednesday's record close as key technology issues such as Intel, Sun Microsystems and Cisco Systems declined.

Technology shares were also weak on the NYSE, where Digital Equipment fell after Goldman Sachs reportedly lowered its earnings estimate for the computer maker. IBM was one of the weakest Dow components.

Stocks initially took their one from bonds, which leaped higher this morning, sending the yield

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks on the 30-year Treasury bond under 6.9 percent. On Wednesday, spurt in bonds spurred by falling commodities prices.

The long-bond's recent flirt with 7 percent has rattled stock investors concerned about rising borrowing costs, which hart corporate profits by increasing borrowing costs and slowing consumer spending. Higher interest rates also hurt stocks by drawing investors from stocks to bonds.

But the stock market's reaction to yesterday's improvement in interest rates was fleeting with investors remaining skillish before today's report on May employment, which may provide crucial clues on inflations.

The financial markets have plunged after recent employment

reports, which reignited worries that rising payroll levels and wages would translate into rapid inflation by creating too much spending power and too much demand. An inflationary tone in Friday's report would reinforce fears the Federal Reserve will fight inflation by raising short-term interest rates.

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KING OF KINGS ASSEMBLY.YMCA Auditorium, 26 King David St., Sunday 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tel. 02-610-017.

JERUSALEM

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, 13 King David St. Shabbat morning service, 9:30

MORESHET YISRAEL — Conservative 4 Agron. Dr. Avraham Feder, Rabbi. Fri-day Afternoon Minha 6:30 p.m. Shaharit 8:30 a.m., Minha 6:45 p.m. Daily Minyan

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ART GUIDE

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JERUSALEM

Museums
OLD YESHUV COURT MUSEUM. Life in the Jewish community in the Old city, mid-19th century – World War II. 6 Or Hahalm, Jewish Quarter, Old City. Sun.-Thur.

ART GUIDE

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GENERAL ASSISTANCE

GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Friday, June 7 Jerusalem: Jaffa Gate, 283898; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058. Tel Aviv: Lev Ha'ir, 69 Ahad Ha'am, 560-

3862; Pharmaxi, 41 Yirmeyahu (next to Pe'er Cinema), 544-2050. Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Kinneret, 119 Weizmann, Kfar Sava, 767-3228. Netanya: Neot Shaked, Ezorim Commercial Center, 352484. Krayot area: Harman, 4 Simtat Modřin, Kiryat Motzkin, 870-7770. Haita: Haotborim, 28 Haotborim, 823-

Herzilya: Clai Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herziya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight. Upper Nazareth: Clai Pharm, Lev Hafr Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, June 8
Jerusalem: (day) Kupat Holim Clafit,
Straus A, 3 Avigdori, 706600: (evening)
Center Pharm, Har Hahotzvim, 869744;
(day and evening) Balsam, Salah e-Din,
272315; Shualat, Shualat Road, 810108;
Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.Tel
Aviv: Bloch, 32 Bloch, 522-6425; Shlomo
Hamelech, 78 Shlomo Hamelech, 524-6461. Till midnight: Superpharm Ramat
Aviv, 40 Einstein, Ramat Aviv, 641-3730;
Superpharm London Ministore, 4 Shaul
Hamelech, 696-0115.
Ra'arana-Ktar Sava: (day) Merkaz
Golan, 198 Ahuza, Ra'anana, 774-5762;
(evening) Haragil, 47 Rothschild, Kfar
Sava, 767-0908.
Netanya: Hasharon mail, Herzl, 617766.
Krayot area: Harman, 4 Simtat ModPin,
Kiryat Motzkin, 670-7770.
Haifa: Carmelit, 6 Eliahu Hanavi, 8675715.

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DUTY HUSPITALS
Filday, June 7
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Zedek (surgery); Hadassah Mt. Scopus
(orthopedics); Bikur Holim (obstetnes,
ENT).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana
Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv
Medical Center (internal, surgery).
Matanusa: Lanlado.

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The National Poison Control Center at The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital, phone 04-8529205 for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for Infor-mation in case of poisoning.

Eran - Emotional First Aid. Jerusalen 610303, Tel Aviv 5461111 (childrenlyouth 6961113), Haifa 8672222, Beersheba 494333, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 9888770, Kiar Sava 974555, Hadera

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5448191 (men), Jerusalem 255558, Haifa 8660111, Ellat 31977.

Emergency line for women in distress Sunday-Thursday 24 hrs. a day, Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 09-505720.

Wizo hottines for battered women 02-6514111, 03-5461133 (also in Russian), 07-376310, 08-550508 (also in Amharic). Kupat Holim Information Center 177-022-1906, Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hadassah/Jerusalem Municipal Health Center for Adolescents, 6 Chile St., Kryat Hayovel, Jim. Advice by phone 02-433882.

Hadassah Medical Organization – Israel Cancer Association telephone support service 02-247676.

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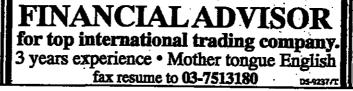
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Bill

Bulls beat Sonics by 17 points Graf and Sanchez to meet

CHICAGO (AP) - Nothing too speciacular from Michael Jordan nothing fantastic statistically. Yet there was nothing Seattle could do no stop the Chicago Bulls

The Bulls, who last played May 27. toyed with the Sonics and made them seem worthy for a stretch or two. Then Chicago blitzed every time the game got close, pulling away for a 107-90 victory in Game 1 of the National Basketball Association Finals on Wednesday night,

"We were out of synch a little bin offensively," Jordan said. "That's natural for having eight days off. I think the guys really had the determination to come out and run hard and play hard." It was the best team in the NBA

showing why it is considered almost unbeatable. Although it was far from a flawless performance, the Bulls still turned it into a laugher in the final few minutes. "It was a feel-out game, a game where we were coming to terms with each other," Chicago coach Phil Jackson said. "We found our rhythm late in the game and we

Toni Kukoc scored 10 straight Chicago points in a 14-5 run to open the fourth quarter, and Jordan's supporting cast had all the points in a subsequent 8-0 run that removed any doubt.

were able to take over."

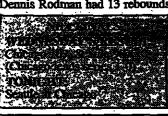
Jordan finished with 28 points but didn't contribute much in the game-deciding run, Scottie Pippen had 21 and Kukoc had 18 on a night when the Bulls shot only 43 percent. Chicago outscored Seattle 28-13 in the fourth quarter, however, and attempted 18 more shots than the Western Conference champions.

The Bulls also turned the ball over only seven times and came up with three key steals in the final period. Game 2 is tonight in Chicago. In

the meantime, the Sonics will try to figure out what it will take to beat the Bulls.

"I liked some of the stuff we did out there," Seattle coach George Karl said. "I think we learned some stuff out there. It's a learning process, and as we get into more of a comfort zone we'll be

able to compete better and better." The first thing they can try to do is stop Jordan's underlings. Ron Harper had 15 points and seven assists and shot 60%, Luc Longley dominated the middle in the first quarter and finished with 14 points and four blocks and Dennis Rodman had 13 rebounds





NOT SO FAST - Chicago's Scottie Pippen (r) reaches through the arms of Seattle's Detlef Schrempf during Wednesday night's game.

and seven points - all on uncon-

tested layups.
"Ron Harper did a heck of a job on Gary Payton," Jordan said.
"He created a lot of breaks for us down the stretch,"

And Rodman created trouble for Frank Brickowski. The Seanle forward was assessed a flagrant foul for pushing Rodman in the neck while battling for a rebound late in the first half. He refused to stop talking to Rodman, and referee Joe Crawford whistled him for two straight technicals and bounced him from the game.

Rodman's last two points came with 5:25 left in the game after it appeared the Sonics were ready to make one more run.

Payton had scored on a driving one-hander and a fastbreak layup off a steal by Shawn Kemp, who finished with 32 points. The Bulls quickly called timeout, and Harper then faked a 3-pointer and rifled a pass to Rodman under-

neath for a layup.

Kukoc followed with a fastbreak layup, Harper had a steal and layup and Longley scored from in close for an 8-0 run. Payton scored once more, but lordan came back with perhaps

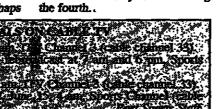
his prettiest shot of the night, a high-arching fadeaway from the left side that made it 103-88.

Jordan, who scored 18 points in the first half, added one more basket down the stretch to finish five points short of his postseason average. Kukoc, who was only 3-for-36 from 3-point range in the first three rounds of the playoffs, went 2-for-5 from beyond the arc.

Kemp was backed by Sam Perkins with 14 points and Payton with 13 on 6-of-17 shooting. The Sonics went 31-of-36 from the foul line in a game that featured 56 fouls and 67 free throws. Chicago seemed to be pulling

away in the third quarter as Jordan hit the first shot of the period, Harper scored on a drive and Pippen had a fastbreak layup, three foul shots and a 3-pointer for a 67-56 lead. It all went away, however, when

Jordan went to the bench for five minutes of rest. Seattle pounded the ball inside and kept drawing fouls, and the Sonics went 16-for-16 from the line in the quarter. A 19-8 run made it 75-75 and Scattle trailed only 79-77 entering



FG FT Reb CHRCAGO Milin M-A M-A O-T A PF Pts Pippen 44 5-15 8-9 5-7 3 3 2 1 Rodman 36 33-6 1-2 3-13 2 5 7 Longley 25 5-12 4-5 1-1 1 4 14 Harper 30 6-10 2-2 3-5 7 4 15 Londan 41 9-18 9-10 0-7 2 4 28 Kerr 12 0-5 0-0 0-0 0 0 0 0 Kukoc 27 7-13 2-3 3-4 4 3 18 Brown 3 0-1 0-0 0-0 0 0 0 Wennington 10 2-2 0-0 2-3 0 0 4 Buechler 9 0-4 0-0 0-0 1 2 0 Salley 2 0-0 0-0 0 0 0 0 Totals 240 37-85 26-31 17-40 29 27 107 Percentages: FG A30, FT A33. 3-Point Goals: 7-26, 289 (Pippen 3-8, Kukoc 2-5, Harper 1-3, Jordan 1-4, Kerr 0-3, Buechler 0-3). Team Rebounds: 10. Blocked shots: 9 (Longley 4, Pippen 3, Harper, Surdan). Tumovers: 7 (Rodman 2, Jordan 2, Longley, Hisper, Buechlar). Steattle 18 30 29 13 - 90

18 30 29 13 - 90 Chicago 24 29 25 28 - 107

BULLS 107, SUPERSONICS 90

FG FT Bab

SEATTLE Min N-A M-A O-T A PF PIS
Kemp 41 9-14 14-16 5-8 2 6 32
Schrempi 35 3-8 6-6 3-8 3 4 13
Johnson 9 1-2 0-0 9-0 0 1 2
Hawkins 35 2-9 5-5 0-3 1 2 9
Payton 47 6-17 1-4 2-10 6 5 13
Perkins 37 5-14 1-1 4-5 2 3 14
McMillan 6 0-0 0-0 0-1 1 0 0
Askew 25 1-4 2-2 0-6 1 4 5
Brickowski 2 6-0 0-0 0-0 0 1 2 0
Mingale 2 0-0 2-2 0-0 0 2 2
Snow 1 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0
Totals 240 27-68 31-36 14-41 16 29 90
Percentiages: FG 237, FT 361.
3-Point Geals: 5-16, 313 (Perkins 3-5,
Schrempi 1-2, Askew 1-3, Hewkins 0-3, Payton 0-3, Team Rabounds: 9. Blockod shots: 2 (Kemp, Johnson), Turnovers: 17 (Kemp 7, Payton 3,
Perkins 3, Schrempi 2, Hewkins, Askew), Shaelis: 6
(Kemp 2, Schrempi, Johnson, Payton, Petkins),
Technical fouls: Brickowski 2, 127 second,
Blogal defense: None.

Red-hot Ripken hits game-winner

BALTIMORE (AP) - Cai Ripken singled in the tiebreaking run in the eighth inning and the Baltimore Orioles handed Detroit its 18th loss in 19 games, 6-4

Wednesday night. Baltimore's Roberto Alomar went 2-for-3 with a solo homer and an RBI single, extending his hitting streak to a career hightying 19 games and raising his batting average to .405. He is only the fifth player in the 1990s to be hitting 400 in June. Bill Ripken also homered for the

Orioles, who have won 15 of 22. Arthur Rhodes (6-0) pitched two scoreless innings and Randy



save, the second in two nights. Mike Myers (0-3) took the loss.

Indians 13, Mariners 5
Albert Belle hit his major leagueleading 23rd home run and drew a bases-loaded walk to score the go-ahead run in host Cleveland's win over Seattle. The homer was Belle's 217th, passing Hal Trosky for second place on Cleveland's all-time list. The Indians scored seven runs in the

seventh immig on four walks, three singles and a hit batsman. Cleveland's Alex Rodriguez, who reached base five times, hit his 11th homer, a two-run shot in the eighth.

Bob Milacki (1-3) took the loss,

while Eric Plunk (2-0) got the win.

Blue Jays 12, Yankees 7

Alex Gonzalez hit a two-run homer and Ed Sprague added a three-run shot as Toronto halted its 13-game losing streak against the New York Yankees. The Blue Jays had lost eight in a now at Yankee Stadium. Toronto scored four times in the first inning off Jimmy Key (2-6).

WEDNESDAY'S AL RESULTS: Milwankee 6, Texas 4 Chicago 8, Boston 6 (12) Cleveland 13, Seattle 5

After the Yankees closed within a run, Gonzalez homered in the fourth and the Blue Jays finished Key with a two-

> Key gave up eight runs and nine bits. Sprague's homer off Bob Wickman capped a four-run sixth that made it 12-4. Pat Hentgen (6-4) got the win. NATIONAL LEAGUE Giants 15, Reds 4.

> Matt Williams and Marvin Benard drove in four runs apiece as visiting San Francisco scored in each of the first seven innings.
>
> Mark Cardner (7-1) got his fifth straight win, pitching seven immigs.
> He also drove in a pair of runs.

> Every starter except Steve Scarsone had a hit as San Francisco piled up season highs in runs and hits (17). It was the Giants' most lopsided win of the season and the Reds' most one-

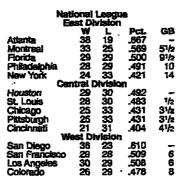
The Reds had their good-luck charm, Slugger the stuffed gorilla, on the bench for a second day, but were more charitable than charmed. They made three errors in the first three WEDNESDAY'S NL RESULTS:

Chicago 9, Philadelphia 6 Montreal 2, Florida 1 San Francisco 15, Cincinnati 4 Atlanta 8, New York 6 Pittsburgh 7, Los Ang

innings to set up their seventh loss in Kevin Jarvis (0-1) set the tone by throwing away Benard's comebacker

to open the game. Braves 8, Mets 6 Pinch-hitter Tyler Houston hit a two-out, bases-loaded triple in the seventh inning for host Atlanta. The Mets knocked out Atlanta starter Steve Avery in the sixth and

went ahead 6-5 on Butch Huskey's three-run double. But Houston, a rookie who had batted only 18 times all year, came through after the Mets intentionally walked Ryan Klesko to load the bases. Houston hit a 2-2 pitch from Dave Mlicki (1-3) just inside the first base bag past a diving Huskey.



in Paris Open rematch

PARIS (Reuter) - Steffi Graf outclassed Conchita Martinez in just over an hour to set up a rematch of last year's final against Arantxa Sanchez Vicario at the French Open yesterday.

The German top seed cruised into her eighth final at Roland Garros 6-3, 6-1 while Sanchez Vicario, who she beat last year to win her fourth title here, dismissed doubles partner Jana Novoma 6-3, 7-5.

Tomorrow's final will again bring together arguably the two best clay-court players in the world. Sanchez Vicario beat Graf in the 1989 final and also won the title for a second time two years ago.

Graf, who looked stronger than ever against Martinez, will be aiming for her 19th grand slam title and her fifth in succession. The first set of her match against Martinez, a

rematch of one of last year's semifinals, did little for the promotion of women's tennis. Nervousness and the suffocating heat may well

have accounted for the poor start to the match. There were no less than five breaks in the first six games but when Graf held serve in the seventh it signaled the end of Martinez' hopes. The 1994 Wimbledon champion had very little to

offer against the defending champion - an occasional

passing shot, a few dropshots but also much too many double faults and unforced errors.

straight games in a row before Martinez salvaged some pride by taking the fifth game of the second set. She also saved two match points before pushing her last backhand into the net.

"The way I've been playing for the past two weeks has been exceptional. I've played very solid tennis," said Graf, who has spent less than six hours on court in six matches.

On the prospect of yet another meeting with Sanchez Vicario, Graf said: "We've had so many finals together. It's alway been very tight. I think it will be very difficult. Arantxa has played very well so far in the tournament."

Sanchez Vicario again employed her trademark aggressive baseline game against her Czech doubles partner, who was far too nervous to be a real threat. "It was a very good match for me. I was patient and did what I had to do," said the Spaniard, who won in one hour and 37 minutes.

The first set was one-sided but Novoma, playing in her second semifinal here after losing to Graf in 1990, fought back bravely in the second set, trying to upset Sanchez at the net.

But she cracked in the 12th game as she was serving for a chance of a tiebreak, in which her hard serve could perhaps have secured her a third set.

Graf leads Sanchez Vicario 3-2 in their grand slam

Cork gives England the edge on first day of Test vs. India

BIRMINGHAM (Reuter) Derbyshire all-rounder Dominic Cork grabbed four wickets as England stole the honors at the close of the opening day of the first Test against India at Edgbaston yesterday.

Cork took four for 61, including the prize wicket of Sachin Tendulkar, and was well-backed up by England's three other pace bowlers as India, who won the toss and chose to bat first, were bowled out for just 214.

Mike Atherton (30 not out) and Nick Knight (27 not out) then batted through 19 overs without problem to take England to 60 without loss at close of play. But it was England's perfor-

mance in the field which caught the eye.

The pace bowling quartet of debutants Alan Mulially and Ronnie Irani plus Cork and Chris Lewis shared the wickets as they took full advantage of overcast conditions and some sloppy

The Indians have played only three Tests since December 1994 and it showed as they went about their innings in cavalier one-day fashion.

From the moment that opening batsman Ajay Jadeja fell for a duck, edging a loose drive to Mike Atherton in the gully, India struggled to establish their innings.

Nasser Hussain spilled a relatively simple chance from Vikram Rathore in the second over off Cork but that was the only blemish in the field. Knight picked up three catches, one of them outstanding, while Atherton collected a second with a marvelous diving effort in the gully to remove Sanjay Manjreka.

By lunch India had slipped to 80 for three as Knight snapped up Rathore off Cork for 20 and then brilliantly dived to his left at midwicket to remove Indian captain Mohammad Azharuddin for 13. That wicket gave Irani his first

Test victim with his fifth ball in international cricket.

The crucial breakthrough, though, came shortly after lunch when Sachin Tendulkar played all round a straight ball from Cork and was bowled for 24.

and was bowled for 24, India first innings

V. Rathoris c Kright b Cork

A. India c Atherton b Lewis

S. Manifekar c Atherton b Lewis

S. Tendultar b Cork

M. Azhrendrin c Kright b Irani

13

N. Monga b Multally

S. Losin c Thorpe b Multally

Lewis

S. Josin c Thorpe b Multally

S. Josin c Russell b Multally

S. J. Simath c Russell b Multally

S. P. Misambrey c Thorpe b Cork

S. P. Misambrey c Thorpe b Cork

Betras (b-3 b-10 nb-4)

Total (69.1 overs)

17

Total (69.1 overs)

Bowling: Lewis 18-2-44-2, Cork 20.1-5-61-4, Multally 22-7-60-3, Irani 7-4-22-1, Patel 2-0-14-0.

Colorado shows off 'mouse trap

DENVER (AP) - Forget about the neutral-zone trap. The Colorado Avalanche's "mouse trap" is the talk of this year's Stanley Cup finals.

Maybe the Avalanche won't make everyone forget the New Jersey Devils' trapping defense that helped them win the North American National Hockey League title last year, but the Avalanche have shown they re not exactly deficient in the defensive department, either.

Colorado's defense played a large part in Tuesday night's 3-1 victory over Florida in Game 1 in of the best-of-seven series, and they were counting on more of the same when the series continued

"We had some tough times dur-ing the season (defensively), but we had some good times,too," defenseman Sylvain Lefebvre said. "I think being called 'marshmallows' kind of fired us up."

Lefebvre referred to a remark

Jerusalem Post Softball League Pct. G8 941 -5 941 -5 632 5% 625 8 611 6 588 5% 353 10% -125 14

B Division Aziek Gloma: Vision Center Net Media Kalia Pistols Kobutz Gezer Hasaot Benny

by Vancouver Canucks president Pat Ouinn in their first-round Avalanche players.

"I think he made a mistake to call it that way," Lefebvie said. "We banged them up pretty well and kept playing the same way in the next series, and we intend to play the same way in the finals." The Panthers, who play a variation of the neutral-zone trap, must

have thought they were looking in the mirror in Game 1 - particularly in the second period when the Avalanche held them to six shots. Florida managed merely 26 overall, as opposed to a 61-shot effort it had against Pittsburgh in one game in the Eastern Conference finals.

Once taking the lead with a three-goal burst midway through the second period, the Avalanche simply shut down the Panthers, with notable help from goaltender Patrick Roy, of course. "He was exceptional," Florida

coach Dong MacLean said of

Roy's effort Tuesday night. "That doesn't catch anyone off guard." series that infuriated many of the ... Rarely will you see Roy caught off-guard, either.
"He's very confident in his abil-

ities." Avalanche coach Marc Crawford said at Wednesday's practice. "He works so hard in practices on his technique; he's a real professional."

With Roy the backbone, the Avalanche have been one of the better defensive teams in this year's playoffs - ranking close to the Panthers in goals-against.

The Avalanche have given up 48 goals in 19 games, compared to the Panthers' 45 in the same number of games.

STANLEY CUP FINALS LAST NIGHT: Florida at Colorado (Colorado leads series 1-0) TOMORROW NIGHT: Colorado at Florida

Kiryat Shmona and Shimshon TA in relegation dogfight

IT may not be raining katushyas in Kiryat Shmona any longer but the townsfolk have been gripped by tension again this week.
Tomorrow afternoon Kiryat Shmona's Hapoel soccer team performs the final act in its dramatic bid to escape relegation from Division Two, as it plays host to Ironi Ashdod in the last game of the campaign.

The northerners occupy 14th position with 34 points, one more than Shimshon Tel Aviv, its com-*batant in a fight that only one of sides can survive. Kiryat Shmona's battle has been

marred by the upheaval caused during and after Operation Grapes of Wrath. The disruption of life in the

north resulted in the IFA's decision to postpone the Second Division program until the situation returned to a more normal footing. Nevertheless that time out has not helped Kiryat Shmona who slumped to a 2-0 defeat at Hapoel Bat Yam last weekend. A victory will assure another

season in the division for the northerners, but a draw could spell doom if the Tel Avivans manage to end their 90-minute fight against Ness Ziona as win-

Fate has decreed that Shimshon's future be decided against the club's former servant and international striker Gideon Damti who presently coaches Ness Ziona. Once a favorite

amongst the Shimshon faithful, Damti now stands in the unenviable role of potential executioner of a club which ended as beaten State Cup finalists in 1985-86 and 1989-90. 989-90. Shimshon's form has stuttered

as of late, and last week's damaging 2-0 home defeat against Hapoel Ashdod does not bode well, particularly for a side that has mustered just three away wins ali season. If Kiryat Shmona were to lose

by more than a one-goal margin tomorrow, a draw will be good enough for Shimshon who would stay up on goal difference. Both matches are being played

simultaneously and kick off is at 5

already occupied by Hapoel Kfar Shalem which remains 13 points adrift of Shimsbon.

At the top of the division, champion Hapoel Taiba hosts Hakoah Ramat Gan today, while Hapoel Jerusalem can continue its promotion celebrations this afternoon

features (kick-off time 5 pm tomorrow nniess otherwise stated): Ness Ziona v. Shimshon Tel Aviv; Hapoel Ashdod v. Maccabi Kiryat

Gat; Hapoel Jerusalem v. Maccabi Yavne, today, 4 pm; Hapoel Taiha v. Hakoah Ramat Gan, today, 5 pm; Maccabi Netanya v. Hapoel Kfar Shalem; Hapoel Ramat Gan v. Hapoel Hadera, today, 4 pm; Maccabi Acre v. Hapoel Bat Yam, today, 4:30 pm; Kirvat Shmona v. Ironi Ashdod.

st Division 35 23 .603 30 26 .536 27 30 .474 26 31 .456 Baltimore 6, Detroit 4 Minaesota 14, California 3 Kansas City 5, Oakland 2 Germans, Italians and Dutch have much to prove at Euro 96

LONDON (AP) - They may be some way behind world champion Brazil in terms of technique, But the powerhouses of Europe, the Germans, Italians and Dutch, don't like being called second

The 10th European championship starrs tomorrow with more than just the trophy at stake. Prestige in world soccer terms is an even bigger prize.

Germany, the only two-time winner has plenty to prove after a poor World Cup. The Italians aim to show they are better than the team that finished runner up to Brazil two years ago. The Dutch are confident they have the players to eclipse both and even go on to take Brazil's crown in 1998.

Add to those a rejuvenated French team which is convinced it. can live without standout striker Eric Cantona and also a host country which badly needs a big triumph to sweep away the gloom of not qualifying for the World Cup. Europe provided seven of the eight World Cup quarter-finalists yet Brazil won the title. In the power struggle to decide which

continent really is the dominant

force, a biggest-ever European Championship provides the opportunity for one country to emerge as Brazil's biggest rival for World Cup '98.

Sadly, it also has the potential for creating a platform for major fan violence. As well as Europe's top 16 teams - twice the usual number - some of the worst hooligans around are feared to be on the way to do battle with English thugs.

Denmark, which only gained a place in the 1992 finals because

the players who floundered in the World Cup and the same coach, Berti Vogts. But players of the caliber of Mathias Sammer and Juergen Klinsmann hope to show they can get back to the top of European soccer and sound a warning note to Brazil in the next

World Cup in 1998. Coincidentally, Germany and second favorite Italy are in the same Group C along with Russia The 31 games in the June 8-30 and the Czechs. They will have championship are at eight venues the chance to test each other's all over England - Wembley, Villa strength early in the competition at Old Trafford June 19. The Italians have chosen to

Park at Birmingham, Old Trafford in Manchester and Anfield at leave behind World Cup star Liverpool, the City Ground in Nottingham and Hillsborough in Roberto Baggio. But they still have some immensely talented Sheffield, Elland Road at Leeds forwards, such as Gianfranco and St James' Park in Newcastle. Zola, Alessandro Dei Piero and The opening game, England vs. Fabrizio Ravanelli and probably Switzerland and the final are at

war-torn Yugoslavia was thrown ont, is rated one of the outsiders even though it is back to defead the title. Turkey, Croatia and Switzerland are in the finals for The Germans still have many of

the world's best defender, Paolo Maldini, at the back. The Dutch have been hit by injuries and could also suffer from

a delayed depression caused by Ajax of Amsterdam's loss of the European Champions Cup title to Italy's Juventus. Central defender Frank de Boer looks also certain to miss the competition after damaging his ankle in training early this week while ace striker Patrick Kluivert has lost form since collecting a leg injury at the end of the Dutch domestic season. Like Brazil, the Dutch are the

envy of most other nations for being able to introduce young talented players year after year. But often they have been the victims of internal strife and are notorious for letting confidence drain out of them when hit by setbacks. The Dutch are grouped with

England, Switzerland and Scotland and are heavily favored to win Group A even though the English host the event and play all their games at Wembley. A 23-game unbeaten run, including last Saturday's 1-0 vic-

tory over the Germans in Stuttgart, means the French can go into the championship without star players such as Manchester United's Cantona, Newcastle's David Ginola and Jean-Pierre Papin of Bayern Munich. Coach Aime Jacquet is con-

vinced that even to call these

players in the 22-man squads

could be disruptive.

Group B rivals Bulgaria, Romania and Spain, which all made it to the second round of the World Cup even though the French didn't even qualify for the finals, are rated behind France in the betting.

Defending champion Denmark faces Portugal and debutants Turkey and Croatia in Group D in

what looks the weakest group. This time the Danes will have both Laudrup brothers, Real Madrid's Michael, and Glasgow Rangers' Brian, in the squad and the goalkeeper widely rated the best in the world, Manchester United's Peter Schmeichel.

us of players who were together when the nation won the 1989 and 1991 innior world cups and is rated the strongest in the group with stars such as Paulo Sousa of Juventus, Fernando Couto of Parma and Benfica's Jo2o Pinto. Although Croatia is a first-time qualifier it no longer is an

throughout Europe.

But Portugal has a strong nucle-

unknown quantity. Star players such as AC Milan's Zvonimir Boban and Robert Prosinecki of Barcelona are well known The lower relegation benth is

against Maccabi Yavne. This weekend's Division Two soccer

RAINE MARCUS

THE comptroller of a Bank Hapoalim subsidiary remanded for eight days yester-day by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court, on suspicion he embezzled some NIS 30 million over a 10-year period, one of the biggest frauds in the country's history. Yosef Topol, 55, of Rishon

Lezion, is the controller of Amot Investments, which deals in commercial real estate. He was arrested on Tuesday after a lengthy undercover investigation, and is being kept in solitary confinement and under strict supervision in the Abu Kabir lock-up, for fear he might harm himself.

As comptroller of the company for the last 26 years, he was permitted to sign checks together with another senior employee who had signatory rights. According to police, Topol simply forged the other signature, and made the checks out to family members. He then would forge the copies of the checks for the ledgers, which showed the checks were ostensibly made payable to the Mifalei Tahanot company, a partner in several of Amot's projects. Topol is also suspected of forging documents ostensibly sent by the company confirming

During questioning, Topol admitted forging around "NIS 12 million or so in checks." But police suspect the total amount might be more than NIS 30m.

At the



Yosef Topol (left), the controller of Amot Investments, is brought to Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court for a remand hearing yesterday. He is suspected of embezzling tens of millions of shekels from the

Sources said Topol has offered to cooperate with detectives and even turn state's witness against others individuals, who, he said, were involved in even larger

Topol claimed to have spent the money, but he lives in a middleclass apartment in Rishon Lezion and apparently does not maintain an extravagant life-style. His family members were also questioned.

Police are still searching for the missing millions, which are not in any of his bank accounts here. Police speculate that Topol transferred the embezzled funds to Swiss or other foreign bank accounts. They are also investigating whether off-shore straw companies were started under

Amot Investments is one of the largest real estate companies in the country, holding hundreds of millions of shekels' worth of property for sale and rental. Two weeks ago, Bank Hapoalim director Amiram Sivan was questioned by police in connection with susons that he transferred bank funds to Amot, to be invested in real estate projects, in violation of the Banking Law. He was released after being questioned

resources, ultimately ruining the Red Sea Canal; sewage treatment as part of water development protourism potential for all. jects; and establishing a joint research center to study water, Members of the Jordanian Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, SPNI and agriculture and environmental issues. The conference was part of EcoPeace presented a joint stand a larger project which will end with a meeting in Jordan on June 13, after which a report will be

Drivers get license

extensions due to sanctions

POORLY planned development might kill the Dead Sea, accord-

ing to Israeli, Jordanian and

participated in a conference in Tel Aviv yesterday entitled "The

The conference was organized

by EcoPeace, a regional non-gov-

mental body; the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel; and

Life and Environment, an umbrel-

la organization of Israeli green

Much of the conference concen-

trated on the threats posed by plans to build 50,000 hotel rooms in the

Dead Sea area, from the north where the Palestinian Authority is

ning to construct tourism facilities, to Ein Bokek in the south.

Many of the participants said

they fear poor planning would result in a long continuous stretch

of hotels which would create a

blight on the landscape and strain

whose main points include: devel-

oping tourism in defined, distant

areas separated by wide reaches

of natural landscape; giving pref-

Dead Sea - Future Challenges.

stinian environmentalists who

Israel, Arab

neighbors discuss

Dead Sea planning

erence to adding to existing tourism sites rather than develop-

ing new ones; and establishing a joint team to examine project

plans and make recommendations from the regional environmental viewpoint. The best relative

advantages in developing tourism can be found in the north close to

supplies and water sources," said

Israeli geologist Eli Raz. The best model would be big centers in the north and south which

would meet most of the demand,

while preserving stretches of coast between them as undis-turbed landscape. Similarly, bathing beaches could be pre-

Jordanian engineers Mahamoud Khoshman and Ra'ed Daoud,

whose recommendations include

introducing clean water into the Jordan River by all sides; the pos-sible excavation of a Dead Sea-

Among the speakers were

pared where feasible."

the international roads, manpov

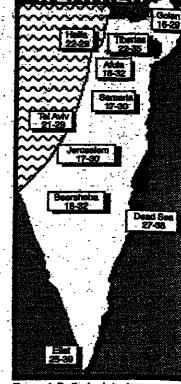
DRIVERS who have not been able to renew their licenses because of work stoppages in the Transport Ministry's Licensing Bureau are to receive an automatic extension, the ministry

announced yesterday. The stoppages are in the bureau's computer section, where drivers have not been sent forms to renew their licenses since May 20. The extension is from May 20 to July 31, Transport Ministry spokesman Avner Ovadya said

However, he added, no such provision has been made for those who have passed their driving test since May 20 and have not been efath with grown 8305 Citi wells

issued licenses because of the work stoppages. Ovadya estimated that about 10,000 would-be new drivers have not been able to get behind the wheel as a result of

July 1-31 Free board and lodging Registration fee: 50\$









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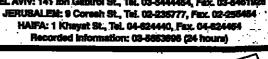
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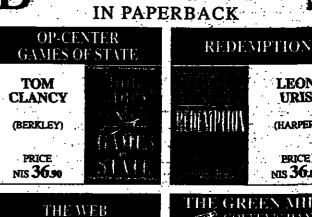
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dependent on peace process'



Jerusalem Theater (JT): Sherover: Theater, Vayomer Vayelech by the Itim Ensemble. today, 1 p.m; dance, Land of Rape and Honey by Liat Dror and Nir Ben Gal; tomorrow, 9 p.m. Henry Crown: Comedy, The Bible Abridged by The Reduced Shakespeare Co. 2 p.m; classical, The Emerson Quartet tomorrow,

Rebecca Crown: Alternative music, Koko the Clown/History of the Last Five Minutes with Samm Bennett and Hahn Rowe. Tomorrow, 9:30 p.m.

JT plaza: Family, Jerusalem Saxophones. tomorrow, 8:30 p.m. JT foyer: Jazz, Masa Umatan Ouartet. tomorrow, 11 p.m. Gerard Behar: dance, Know Your Enemy from Slovenia's Betontanc. 3 p.m.

Binyanei Ha'uma extra performance, Zakir Hussain and percussionists. 2 p.m; tomorrow, 9 p.m. Dormition Abbey: violinist Thomas Zehetmair plays Bach solo violin. Tomorrow, 9 p.m. Targ Center pianorama. Program C. tomorrow, 11 a.m.

> Deri defense continues to plead 'no case'

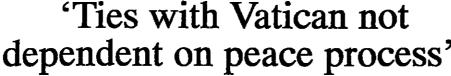
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THE defense team in the trial of Shas leader MK Aryeh Deri and three others continued its "no case" arguments in Jerusalem District Court yesterday.

A "no case" argument attempts to convince the judge that the prosecution did not prove the charges against the defendant, thus making it unnecessary for the defense to summon witnesses. If the judge accepts the argument, the defendant is acquitted.

Yesterday attorney Dan Avi-Yitzhak addressed the third count in the indictment, in which Deri is charged with breach of trust by a public offi-cial, for accepting a bribe from Moshe Weinberg and Yom Tov Rubin, in exchange for which he tried to help the members of the Har Shmuel housing associa-

Avi-Yitzhak said that during the time he dealt with the problems of Har Shmuel, he was not a public official, and that there was no breach of trust in any case because helping the associ-ation find alternative land to build homes was a public ser-



RELATIONS between the Vatican and the State of Israel are not part of the peace process and not dependent on it, Apostolic Nuncio Andrea

Montezemolo said this week. Montezemolo, the first official Vatican diplomatic representative here, was speaking at a ceremony at which he received the Interfaith Gold Medallion presented annually by Sir Sigmund Sternberg, chairman of the International Conference of Christians and Jews. The ceremony, organized by

the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel, took place at the Institute for Holy Land Studies in

HAIM SHAPIRO

He stressed that it is not enough to reach a peace agreement, it is also essential that such an agreement provide for a lasting peace.
"In the world there are many

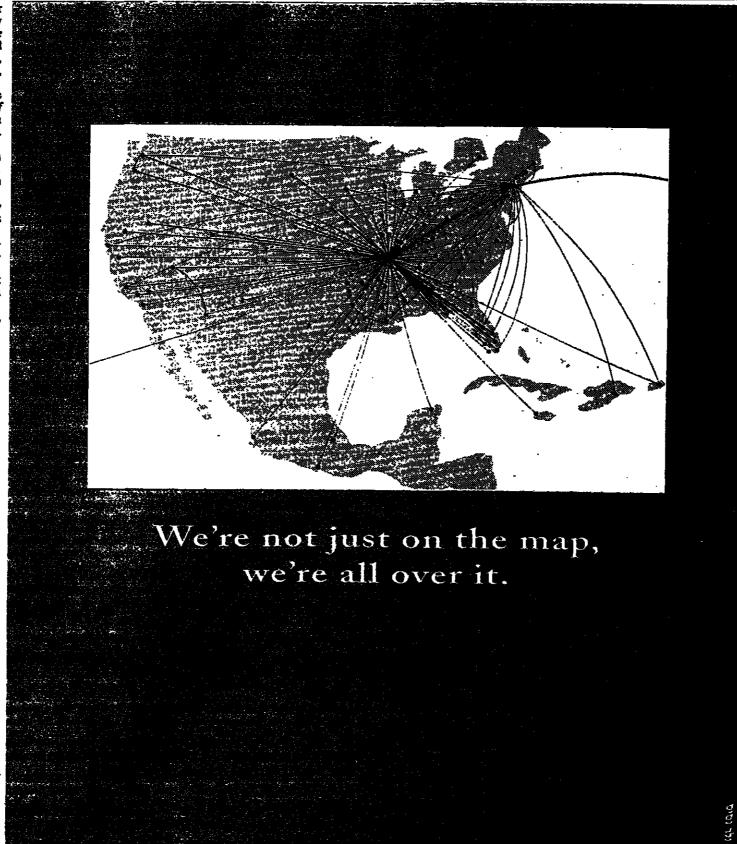
movements for peace, but the peace has to last," he said.

He pointed out that the agree-

Vatican is between two sovereign bodies, rather than between two religious bodies. It is not part of the dialogue between the two religions, he said. However, he added, the agreement has implica-tions for Catholics all over the world, just as it has for Jews all over the world.

ment between Israel and the

The Catholic Church, he said, has no power as a political or financial entity, but it represents 964 million Catholics around the





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